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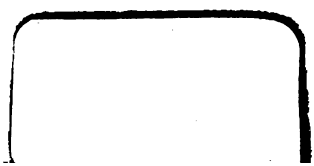
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Ezra S. Stearns.

HISTORY

OF

ASHBURNHAM

MASSACHUSETTS

FROM

THE GRANT OF DORCHESTER CANADA

TO

THE PRESENT TIME, 1734—1886

WITH A

GENEALOGICAL REGISTER

OF

ASHBURNHAM FAMILIES

BY EZRA S. STEARNS,
Author of the History of Rindge, N. H.

"Whatever strengthens our local attachments is favorable both to individual and national character. Show me a man who cares no more for one place than another, and I will show you in that same person one who loves nothing but himself."

ASHBURNHAM, MASS.:
PUBLISHED BY THE TOWN.
1887.

PRESS OF
J. E. FARWELL & CO.
BOSTON.

F74
A72S7

PREFATORY NOTE

BY THE

COMMITTEE OF PUBLICATION.

THIS volume is presented in response to a popular demand. The enterprise was instituted and sustained by a generous desire of the citizens of Ashburnham to secure the publication of the history of the town. The initial action to this end is found in a vote of the town in 1880, making choice of Wilbur F. Whitney, Rev. Josiah D. Crosby, Simeon Merritt and William P. Ellis to make preliminary arrangements for the compilation and publication of a volume. By subsequent votes of the town the committee has been directed to consummate the work.

In 1882 Mr. Merritt died, and George F. Stevens was elected by the town to complete the original number of the committee. Subsequently, on account of age and feeble health, Mr. Crosby resigned, and Charles Winchester was designated to fill the vacancy. Mr. Ellis was appointed by the committee to gather material and family registers, and from this point the work has been prosecuted without interruption.

Early in the spring of 1884 the committee contracted with Hon. Ezra S. Stearns, of Rindge, New Hampshire, to write a History of Ashburnham, following a general plan which he submitted for our consideration, and which met our approbation.

Mr. Stearns has faithfully and ably fulfilled the obligation he assumed, and has produced a work which meets our warmest approval and unqualified endorsement. Yielding to the express desire of the author, we reluctantly refrain from a more particular expression of our estimate of the sterling character of the volume and of our ready appreciation of the vigor of thought and felicity of expression which will not escape the attention of the reader.

WILBUR F. WHITNEY,
WILLIAM P. ELLIS,
GEORGE F. STEVENS,
CHARLES WINCHESTER.

M293194

PREFACE.

A NEW ENGLAND town can allege no antiquity. Only in a comparative sense can one assume the dignity of age. The municipal history of Ashburnham is compressed within the brief span of one hundred and fifty years, and of this period the first two decades are isolated from the connected narrative of the remainder. The drama is limited in duration, yet the scenes are crowded with events. At the threshold stands the surveyor with his compass and chain, the emblems of approaching civilization, ready to sever from the wilderness a defined area and limit the stage on which will appear the shifting scenes of succeeding years. The early settler, struggling with the subjugation of the forest, and, in the dying flame and fading smoke of the clearing, rearing a cabin and garnering the product of a virgin soil, the mechanic in daily toil dreaming not that he is founding industries that will become swelling tributaries to the commerce of the world, the Revolutionary soldier breathing into life his aspirations of liberty, and in the fruits of war revealing the possibility of a republican form of government, the meeting-house on the hill, the settlement and labor of "the learned orthodox minister," the early schools, the primitive roads broadening by use into thoroughfares, the rude mills exhibiting only the elements of mechanical skill,

are a part of the history of every New England town, and each occupies a place in the following chapters. And yet throughout the work, in early and in later affairs, it has been my constant aim to present, in a proper light, the forms of procedure and the phases of character peculiar to this town. The stereotyped features, which in the force and sequence of events are common to the history of all New England towns, have been mainly employed as connecting links in the succession of events or as mirrors to the individuality of Ashburnham. The glory of any town is reflected in the lives of sterling men whose deeds are the soul of its annals. In the following chapters, generation has succeeded generation, and each has left to posterity the strengthening influence of an inspiring example. In local history is found the most potent incentive to activity of life and an honorable conduct. The nearness and familiarity of the exemplars animate the example.

During a review of these many years I have found entertainment, which can be renewed by the reader, in silently noting the types of mind and character developed by the several families which have constituted the population of the town, — each generation exhibiting the balances between extremes of character and ability that incite comparisons and suggest conclusions. The summary record of achievement and conduct demonstrates that the genius of Ashburnham has been persevering, that the average ability of the citizen has been conspicuous, and the general character of the masses has been well sustained.

Without an interruption of the narrative in an exhibition of the fact, it has been my purpose to supplement the deeds of men with an effort to also portray the habit and thought, the manners and customs, the aspirations and passions of

each generation, and to state facts in such a manner that the reader be left at full liberty to draw suggested conclusions. Leaving the discussion of philosophies to more pretentious volumes, it has remained our pleasurable labor to revive fading memories, to give form and substance to the shadows of the past, to clothe in the habiliments of truth the fugitive forms of tradition, to assign to deeds of men the inspiration of a good or an unworthy motive, to present a picture of the past in which can be seen in clearer light the outlines of the present, and to combine the past with the present in a connected narrative of sequence and fact. Not to the manner born nor at any time a resident of Ashburnham, I have often gleaned in the field at a disadvantage, but I have been free from the prejudices of familiarity, and in this effort have not been misguided by the vivid impressions and false estimates of childhood and youth.

The fields, from which the material of the following chapters has been garnered, are the town and church records, the manuscript volumes in the State archives, manuscripts and printed volumes wherever found, and registry and probate records of several counties. Cemeteries with their rigid inscriptions and family records, preserved by pious care, have supplied many dates that could not be secured from other sources. To the custodians of the numerous records that have been laid under tribute, and to a multitude of friends who have rendered cheerful and valued assistance, my weighty obligations are revived in the memory of polite attention and spontaneous kindness. A generous measure of genealogical information has been obtained at the library of the New England Historic-Genealogical Society, and to John Ward Dean, A. M., and

his obliging assistants, I am indebted beyond the conventional forms of acknowledgment. And duty joins with pleasure in an unreserved expression of my gratitude to Harriet Proctor Poore, whose familiarity with the repositories of historic and genealogical lore has aided successful research for many dates and facts not easily accessible. To Wilbur F. Whitney, William P. Ellis, George F. Stevens and Charles Winchester, who have faithfully represented the town in the preparation and publication of this volume, I am pleased to express personal obligations for courteous treatment and polite attention. Their zeal and interest in the prosecution of the work have been a constant incentive, and their prompt attention in the proffer of facilities has anticipated every reasonable requirement. The committee has relieved me from the embarrassment of censorship and the restraint of dictation, and, in a proper recognition of the fact, I assume responsibility for errors, for failure of judgment and for all imperfections which appear in the following pages.

It should be borne in mind that many of the following chapters were written two years ago, and that mention of present time has reference to the beginning of the year 1886. The mention of a subsequent event and the employment of a later date are gratuitous amendments to the plan originally adopted.

EZRA S. STEARNS.

RINDGE, N. H., *May 1, 1887.*

CONTENTS.

INTRODUCTION.

Location.—Boundaries —Area.—Surface.—Soil.—Course of the Streams.—Connecticut and Merrimack Drainage.—Ponds.—Arboral Products.—Wild Animals.—Native Birds.—Fish.—Elevations.—Scenery. 17-26

CHAPTER I.

THE EARLY GRANTS.

Seven Grants of Land.—The Policy of the General Court.—An Era of Grants.—The Starr Grant.—Owned by Green, Wilder and Joslin.—The Cambridge Grant.—The First Survey.—The Lexington Grant.—Sale of same to the Germans.—The Bluefield Grant.—The Early Road to Northfield—The Grant Sold to William Jones and Ephraim Wetherbee.—The Converse Grant.—Sale to Joseph Wilder.—The Rolfe Grant.—Sale to John Greenwood.—The Dorchester Canada or Township Grant.—The Canada Soldiers.—Four Towns Chartered in One Enactment.—The Township Surveyed.—Area.—Personal Notices. 27-51

CHAPTER II.

PROPRIETARY HISTORY.

The Township Awarded to Sixty Persons.—Their Influence over the Settlement.—Proceedings of the First Meeting.—Changes in Membership of the Proprietors.—House Lots Surveyed.—Site for Meeting-house Selected.—Saw-mill Proposed —Second Distribution of Land.—A Fulling-mill Suggested.—The First Meeting-house.—War with Hezekiah Gates.—The Province Line.—Mossman's Inn.—Fear of Indians.—Block House Built.—The Settlement Temporarily Abandoned.—The Situation.—Changes in Membership of the Proprietors.—Personal Notices.—Mossman's Petition. 52-79

CHAPTER III.

A RECORD OF SETTLEMENTS.

Renewed Activity of the Proprietors.—Moses Foster.—The Second Saw-mill.—Grain-mill.—Settlement.—Disagreement between Resident and Non-resident Proprietors.—Names of Early Settlers.—The German Settlement.—The Province Line.—Manufacture of Potash.—Distribution of Undivided Lands.—Farewell to the Proprietors.—Personal Notices. 80-107

CHAPTER IV.

FROM THE INCORPORATION TO THE REVOLUTION.

Incorporation.—The Petitions of the Inhabitants and of the Proprietors.—The name of Ashfield Proposed.—The Charter.—Early Town Meetings.—Ashby Incorporated.—Contribution to Ashby.—New Arrivals.—Salary of the Minister.—Schools.—Abatement of the Province Tax—Revolutionary Flashes.—Death of First Minister.—The Common.—Tax List, 1770.—Price of Commodities.—A Pound and Field Drivers.—Gardner First Suggested.—Warning Out. 108–130

CHAPTER V.

REVOLUTIONARY HISTORY.

Situation of the Town.—The Covenant.—Worcester Convention..—The Juror List.—Represented in Provincial Congress.—Powder and Lead.—The Militia Organized.—Prominent Citizens Interviewed.—The Salt Problem.—Alarm at Lexington.—Captain Gates' Company.—Captain Davis' Company.—The Siege of Boston and Battle of Bunker Hill.—Captain Wilder's Company.—The Declaration of Independence.—Enlistments in 1776.—An Hour of Gloom.—Town Proceedings.—Soldiers in 1777.—Alarm and Call for Troops.—The Response of Ashburnham.—Continental and Other Soldiers.—Public Aid.—Assent to the Articles of Confederation.—Depreciation of the Currency.—The Soldiers in the Field.—New Recruits.—Clothing for the Army.—Alas! One Deserter.—Soldiers in 1779.—Representative to General Court.—Price of Commodities.—Constitution Proposed.—Thanksgiving.—Soldiers in 1780.—Town Meetings.—Observance of the Sabbath.—Soldiers in 1781.—Bounty Proposed.—A Fine Remitted.—Requisitions for Beef.—Home Trials. 131–176

CHAPTER VI.

REVOLUTIONARY HISTORY.—CONTINUED.

Personal Notices.—Ebenezer Munroe.—Abraham Lowe.—Joseph Jewett.—Samuel Kelton.—Reuben Townsend.—Isaac Stearns.—William Stearns.—Isaac Whitmore.—Charles Hastings.—David Wallis.—Cyrus Fairbanks.—Ebenezer Wallis.—Thomas Gibson.—Jonas Rice. Reuben Rice.—Eliakim Rice.—Jabez Marble.—Lemuel Stimson.—Abraham Townsend.—John Bowman.—Joshua Fletcher.—Joseph Merriam.—Asa Brocklebank.—Jonathan Gates.—Jonathan Samson.—Ezekiel S. Metcalf.—David Clark.—David Chaffin.—Ebenezer B. Davis.—Isaac Merriam.—David Merriam.—John Winter.—William Ward.—Edward Whitmore.—Reuben Rice.—Abraham Lowe.—Joseph Jewett.—Reuben Townsend.—Lemuel Stimson.—Jonas Rice.—Jabez and Oliver Marble.—Thomas Gibson.—Charles Hastings.—Joseph Gibbs.—David Wallis.—Cyrus Fairbanks.—Joshua Fletcher.—Joseph Merriam.—Names of Pensioners Residing in Ashburnham in 1840. 177–210

CHAPTER VII.

STATE RELATIONS, POLITICS, TOWN OFFICERS.

A Season of Disquietude.—Shay's Revolt.—The Loyal Sentiment of Ashburnham.—Volunteers to Suppress the Revolt.—Isaac Stearns' Diary.—A Bloodless Campaign.—Constitutional Conventions.—Representation in the Legislature.—Vote of the Town for Governor.—Proposed Divisions of the County.—A List of Town Officers. 211–242

CHAPTER VIII.

ECCLEASISTICAL HISTORY.

Early Measures to Secure Preaching.—Rev. Elisha Harding.—Call and Ordination of Rev. Jonathan Winchester.—A Church Embodied.—The Covenant.—Original Membership.—Additions.—The First Deacons.—Death of Mr. Winchester.—His Character.—Call and Ordination of Rev. John Cushing.—A Long and Successful Ministry.—An Era of Concord.—Discipline without Asperity.—Half Way Covenant.—Death of Mr. Cushing.—His Character.—Call and Ordination of Rev. George Perkins.—Installation of Rev. George Goodyear.—Rev. Edwin Jennison.—Rev. Elnathan Davis.—Rev. Frederick A. Fiske.—Rev. Elbridge G. Little.—Rev. Thomas Routelle.—Rev George E. Fisher.—Rev. Moody A. Stevens.—Rev. Leonard S. Parker.—Rev. Daniel E. Adams.—Rev. Josiah D. Crosby.—A Vacancy.—The Deacons. 243–283

CHAPTER IX.

ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY. — CONTINUED.

The First Meeting-house.—Votes Concerning the Edifice.—Pews Constructed.—The Town as a Parish.—The Salary of Mr. Cushing.—The Hurricane.—The Site of the First Meeting-house.—The Second Meeting-house.—Proceedings 1791.—Painting of the Meeting-house.—Toleration.—Dissolution of the Relations between the Town and the Church.—First Parish Organized.—Contention over the Ministerial Fund.—The Third Meeting-house.—Location.—Continued History.—The Edifice Remodelled.—The Parsonage. 284–308

CHAPTER X.

ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY. — CONTINUED.

The Methodists.—The Field and the Situation.—The Early Preachers.—The First Meeting-house.—Second Meeting-house.—The Ministers.

The Union Church.—The Elements Collected.—The Meeting-house.—A Church Embodied.—The Early Preachers.—Elder Edward A. Rollins.—Rev. A. A. Whitmore.—Temporary Supplies.—Rev. Daniel Wight.—The Parish.—Personal Notices.—The Deacons.

The Baptists.—Preachers without Pay.—Stephen Gibson.—Disintegration.

Adventists.—Their Belief.—No Church Organization.

The Catholics.—First Services in this Town.—Purchase a Meeting-house.—Rev. John Conway. 309–323

CHAPTER XI.

SACRED MUSIC.

A Truthful Remark of No Great Account.—Early Action in Relation to Sacred Music.—Ye Pitch-pipe.—Early Hymn-books.—New Tunes.—First Choristers.—Deaconing the Hymn.—Bass Viol.—Musical Families.—Later Members of the Congregational Choir.—The Methodist Choir. 324–330

CHAPTER XII.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Home Education.—First Appropriation for Schools.—First School-houses.—Districts.—Eight Districts Defined.—A New District.—The Tenth District.—New Boundaries.—The Eleventh District.—The District System Abolished.—School-houses.—Text-books.—Teachers.—Appropriations—School Legislation.—High Schools.—Prudential Affairs.—Supervision. 331–349

CHAPTER XIII.

THE CUSHING ACADEMY.

Incidental Features of the Endowment.—The Will of Thomas Parkman Cushing.—The Trustees.—Progress of Events.—Winchester Square.—The Edifice.—Dedication.—The School Fund.—Jewett Hall.—The Crosby Scholarship.—Library and Apparatus.—Professor Pierce.—Professor Vose.—Board of Trustees, Past and Present. . 350–359

CHAPTER XIV.

BOUNDARIES.

Donations of Land to Other Towns.—Original Area.—Province Line.—Incorporation of Ashby.—Gardner.—Area Severed from Ashburnham.—The Families.—Land Annexed to Ashby.—The Petitioners.—Ashburnham Resists.—New Boundaries.—The Families.—A New Town Proposed.—Meeting-house Built.—Renewed Effort and Opposition.—John Ward and William Barrell Annexed.—Petition of George Wilker and others. 360–371

CHAPTER XV.

ROADS AND RAILROADS.

The Primitive Roads.—The Northfield Road.—Early Roads in Ashburnham.—The Great Road to Ipswich Canada.—A County Road.—Road to Ashby Line.—New Roads.—The Town Indicted.—Other County Roads.—South Turnpike.—The Winchendon Road Amended.—Turnpikes.—Teaming.—Expenditure.—Road Commissioners.—Railroads. 372–388

CHAPTER XVI.

HOTELS AND STORES.

The First Inn.—Several Early Innholders.—Uncle Tim's.—The Cockerel Tavern.—Two Hotels on Main Street.—Children of the Woods.—A New Tavern.—The Central House.—The Frye Tavern—The Tavern at Factory Village.

The Stores.—The First Store.—The Jewetts and their Successors.—Madame Cushing a Merchant.—Several Small Stores.—The Winchesters.—Adams and Greenwood.—Ellis and Lane.—Newton Hayden.—Parker Brothers.—Marble and Gilson.—George Rockwood.—Elliot Moore.—Mirick Stimson.—Store in South Ashburnham. . . 389–400

CHAPTER XVII.

MECHANICAL INDUSTRIES.

Prominent Position of Ashburnham.—Three Early Mills.—A Multitude of Grain-mills and Saw-mills.—The Manufacture of Chairs.—The Great Number Engaged.—John Eaton.—The Pioneers.—Philip R. Merriam.—Charles and George C. Winchester.—The Boston Chair Manufacturing Company.—W. F. Whitney.—The Manufacture of Chairs in South Ashburnham.—Burrageville.—Tubs and Pails.—Thread Spools.—Friction Matches.—Baskets.—Miscellaneous Wood-ware.—Wool Carding and Cloth Dressing.—Cotton Factories.—Tanning.—Morocco Business.—John and S. W. Putnam. 401–423

CHAPTER XVIII.

THE ASHBURNHAM LIGHT INFANTRY.

Zeal in Military Pursuits.—Early Officers.—The Light Infantry Organized.—First Commanders.—A Few Veterans.—Service in War of 1812.—The Roll.—Years of Prosperity.—List of Officers 1791 to 1847.—Promotions.—The Militia Company.—Militia Officers.—The Draft 1814.—History from 1855 to 1862.—Brief Record from 1866 to Present Time.—List of Officers. 424–439

CHAPTER XIX.

WAR OF THE REBELLION.

Prepared For War.—Mission of the Ashburnham Light Infantry.—Early Enlistments.—Second Regiment.—The Home Company.—The Uniform.—Liberality of George C. Winchester.—State Aid.—Twenty-first Regiment.—Its Record.—Names of Men in this Service.—Colonel Joseph P. Rice.—Captain Walker and the Slavery Problem.—Other Enlistments in 1861.—Record of 1862.—Fifty-third Regiment.—Resolutions.—Record of 1863.—The Draft.—Enlistments.—The Second Draft.—Conclusion. 440–463

CHAPTER XX.

PHYSICIANS.—LAWYERS.—PERSONAL NOTICES.—COLLEGE GRADUATES.—OTHER SONS OF ASHBURNHAM.

Doctors Brooks, Senter, Abraham Lowe, Abraham T. Lowe, Nathaniel Peirce, Abercrombie, Cutler, Stone, Miller, Wallace, Whitmore, Mattoon, Temple, Jillson, Charles L. Pierce, Stickney, Amory Jewett, Nathaniel Jewett.—Lawyers Cunningham, Adams, Parker and Andrews.—Samuel Wilder.—Joseph Jewett.—Ivers Jewett.—Jacob Willard.—Silas Willard.—John Adams.—Enoch Whitmore.—Jerome W. Foster.—Ohio Whitney.—Isaac Hill.—Thomas Parkman Cushing.—Milton Whitney.—A List of College Graduates.—Other Sons of Ashburnham. 464–517.

CHAPTER XXI.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Pauperism.—Tithingmen.—Town House.—Union Hall.—Post Offices.—Libraries.—First National Bank.—Savings Bank.—Farmers' Club.—Pounds.—Bounties on Wild Animals.—Thief Detecting Society.—Brass Band.—Powder House.—Population. 518–540

CHAPTER XXII.

MORTUARY RECORDS.

The Early Burials.—Death of Mr. Haskell—Germans Buried Elsewhere.—The Old and the New Cemeteries.—Suicides.—Accidental Deaths.—Record of Deaths of Aged Persons.—List of Aged Persons now Living in Ashburnham. 541–555

CHAPTER XXIII.

GLEANINGS.

A Present to Rev. John Cushing.—Seating the Meeting-house.—Minor Topics.—A New Town Proposed.—A New Name Suggested for Ashburnham.—A War Cloud.—Sickness.—A Severe Winter.—A Variety.—The Great Gale.—The First Fire Engine.—Temperance.—Millerites.—The Great Freshet.—Miscellaneous Topics . . 556–573

GENEALOGICAL REGISTER 575–1007

INDEX OF NAMES 1009–1022

ILLUSTRATIONS.

PORTRAITS.

	PAGE
EZRA S. STEARNS	Frontis.
JOSIAH D. CROSBY	281
A. T. LOWE	466
WILLIAM H. CUTLER	469
JEROME W. FOSTER	485
OHIO WHITNEY, JR.	486
H. C. HOBART	502
IVERS W. ADAMS	502
JOSEPH CUSHING	666
RODNEY HUNT	762
SIMEON MERRITT	825
LORING MUNROE	839
IVERS PHILLIPS	848
OHIO WHITNEY	962
WILBUR F. WHITNEY	968

ENGRAVINGS.

SECOND MEETING HOUSE	295
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH	306
CUSHING ACADEMY	356
THE BRICK STORE	396
FACTORIES: BOSTON CHAIR MANUFACTURING CO.	413
WILBUR F. WHITNEY	414
POWDER HOUSE	539
ADAMS HOMESTEAD	596
PETER HUNT HOMESTEAD	761
RESIDENCE: DR. N. JEWETT	765
THE WILDER HOMESTEAD	849
RESIDENCE: DR. A. L. STICKNEY	909
THE OHIO WHITNEY HOMESTEAD	962
RESIDENCE: CHARLES WINCHESTER	996

INTRODUCTION.

LOCATION. — BOUNDARIES. — AREA. — SURFACE. — SOIL. — COURSE OF THE STREAMS. — CONNECTICUT AND MERRIMACK DRAINAGE. — PONDS. — ARBORAL PRODUCTS. — WILD ANIMALS. — NATIVE BIRDS. — FISH. — ELEVATIONS. — SCENERY.

ASHBURNHAM is the most eastern of the three towns in Worcester county in Massachusetts bordering upon New Hampshire and is bounded on the north by Rindge and New Ipswich; on the east by Ashby and Fitchburg; on the south by Westminster and Gardner and on the west by Winchendon. The old common on Meeting-house hill is fifty-five miles in right line northwest from Boston, and thirty-one miles north from Worcester, and is in latitude 42° 38′ north, and longitude 4° 10′, very nearly, east from Washington. The area of the town is about twenty-four thousand five hundred acres including about one thousand five hundred acres of water. The surface is hilly and diversified. Without ranges or systems of hills the outlines of the landscape are bold and majestic, and promontories are frequent, yet isolated. Many of the elevations are bold and rugged, while others are rounded and elevated swells of land fertile to the summit. There is very little plain and intervale. The streams are gathered in broken and narrow valleys.

The soil of Ashburnham is that common to the hill towns in this vicinity. When placed in comparison it is even stubborn and rocky, yet in most parts arable and productive. The surface is well watered. The subsoil is clay retaining moisture and springs of the purest water are abundant.

The altitude of this town is greater than that of the surrounding country on the east, south and west. The courses of the streams are outward except in the north. The line of water-shed between the Connecticut and Merrimack valleys extends diagonally through the town. The line of division is irregular but is easily traced from Great Watatic to Little Watatic, thence southerly and over the low ridges between Upper Naukeag and Rice pond to the old common. Diverging to the north and west the line extends near the ancient Winchendon road past the residence of Edwin Hayward to near the John Woods farm, thence southerly into the forest about one mile and thence westerly and southwesterly about two miles to the southeast corner of Winchendon.

The northwestern or Connecticut slope is drained into Miller's river. The Upper Naukeag lake which flows into Lower Naukeag is the source of the south branch of that river. At the Lower Naukeag it receives a copious affluent from the northeast. This stream rises in Binney pond in New Ipswich and receives the drainage of a considerable portion of the eastern slope of New Ipswich mountains. It enters this town through the farm of Edwin J. Stearns and flows thence through the village of North Ashburnham into the Lower Naukeag. In its onward course from this lake the next considerable tributary to the south branch of Miller's river is the modest contribution of Rindge which flows past the mills of Robert W. McIntire and joins the stream north of Burrageville. The river thus reinforced abruptly leaves the town but repenting before a mile is traversed, it returns and patiently drives the

mills at Burrageville. In compensation for exhausted energy it soon receives a tributary from the south and rushes on to its many tasks below until it falls into the Connecticut near Greenfield. By this river a half of the town is drained. The source of the brook rising in New Ipswich and flowing through this town is the extreme eastern point of the Connecticut valley.

The southeastern or Merrimack slope is divided into four sections and is drained by as many streams flowing outward. The first drainage is in the northeast part of the town and embraces the basin defined by Great Watatic, Little Watatic and Blood hill. Here the overflow of Stoger meadow and a few smaller streams falling into Ward pond and thence into Watatic pond give rise to a branch of the Souhegan river. Its course is through the north part of Ashby and New Ipswich and onward to the Merrimack river at the town of Merrimack, New Hampshire.

The second drainage is of small area lying between Blood and Russell hills and embraces portions of the Dutch and Cambridge farms. The streams leave this town near the residence of Joseph W. Wilker and fall into the Ashby reservoir. Here the collected water assumes the name of Willard's brook and is tributary to the Squanicook river in Townsend.

The third drainage is bounded on the north and east by the Connecticut slope and the first and second sections of the Merrimack slope. The western boundary is the height of land from Meeting-house hill, thence south across the farm of Joseph Harris to the line of Westminster. The water collected at Rice or Reservoir pond is drained by Phillips' brook flowing through the centre village and onward through the northeast part of Westminster into Fitchburg.

The fourth drainage of the Merrimack slope embraces the

southwest and remaining area of the town. Here are several artificial ponds but no natural body of water. The drainage is collected in the stream rising in the Nashua reservoir and flowing through the village of South Ashburnham and thence through Westminster in a course nearly parallel with Phillips' brook to the line of Fitchburg. At this point it abruptly turns to the north and unites with Phillips' brook at West Fitchburg. Dashing on in a first embrace through the rocky valley of Fitchburg it more leisurely pursues its way through Leominster and Lancaster to a point between Groton and Shirley where it receives the Squanicook, bearing the waters of the second drainage. Together the triune river engulfed in stronger currents falls into the Merrimack river at Nashua. Perhaps somewhere in the river-bed they recognize and mingle with the clear waters from Watatic pond which in its onward course to the ocean has wandered through the valley of the Souhegan. Fallulah or Baker's brook flowing into Fitchburg and a small stream flowing into Westminster are tributary in a short distance to the larger streams and are not considered separately.

There are eight natural ponds in this town; four are tributary to the Connecticut and four to the Merrimack river.

The Upper Naukeag or Meeting-house pond, beneath the towering summits of the surrounding hills and dotted with rugged islands, is a lake of peculiar beauty and attraction. The water is clear and cool and the basin unusually free from sediment. The shores are mainly rocky, sometimes bold and rugged, in other places pure sand of sparkling whiteness forms the encircling barrier and extends beneath the surface of the crystal water, but nowhere is the lake approached by low and marshy ground. This lake and the Watatic mountains were known to the explorers before the settlement of the town. The names undoubtedly are

of Indian origin, but the original sound has been so imperfectly preserved and the names have experienced so many changes in English orthography that students of the Indian dialects fail to discover the original signification of the terms. Professor Trumbull, a recognized authority, has examined these names in every form of orthography and fails to find in them any element that designates either pond or mountain.

THE LOWER NAUKEAG LAKE is less rugged in outline. At the eastern extremity the accumulating deposit of centuries has appeared above the surface of the water and many acres of low land are included within the original basin of the lake. The drainage is controlled by artificial obstruction.

A NAMELESS POND of small area is found in the forest and surrounded by marsh. It is situated a short distance west of Little Watatic and is tributary to the stream which flows through North Ashburnham.

ANOTHER NAMELESS POND, a lonely sheet of water, is found in the marsh in the southwest part of the town. It is near the line of the Cheshire railroad and midway between the depots at North and South Ashburnham. It is tributary to the south branch of Miller's river at Burrageville. The course of the stream is northwest and near the line of the Cheshire railroad.

RICE POND is the most important body of water in the Merrimack drainage. The dam at the outlet controls the natural current and overflows the original boundaries. The declivity of the shores is generally uniform and the natural features and contour of the pond are generally preserved. At the present time it is frequently called Reservoir pond, and in 1735 it was known as Wenecheag pond.

MUD POND of small area is tributary to Rice pond and is situated about one-half mile northwest of it.

WARD POND, formerly known as Whiteman pond, is a gem among the lakes guarded and nurtured by the encircling hills. Its pebbly shores are familiar to the angler while its placid surface and picturesque surroundings are suggestive of rest and tranquillity.

WATATIC POND on the stream below Ward pond is similar in outline but smaller in area. It lies partly in Ashby, but the greater portion is in this town. Near these two ponds were the homes of several of the earliest settlers of Dorchester Canada.

In addition to these natural bodies of water, which for centuries have enlivened the landscape and mirrored in their crystal waters each passing bird and the overhanging hills, there are many reservoirs or artificial ponds in this town. Maintained by the work and for the convenience of man they are perishable and unless the barriers are constantly renewed the waters will again flow within the banks of the natural currents. They form no part of the natural features of the town.

The prevailing arboral products are white pine, spruce, hemlock, maple, birch and beech. These are found in all parts of the town. In the original forests the heaviest growth of the deciduous varieties was found in the southeast part of the town, while the soft woods were in greater abundance in the northern and western portions of the town. The red oak, chestnut, white and black ash, hard pine, juniper or tamarack, fir balsam, basswood, leverwood and hornbeam are native here. The elm, black cherry and white oak are found in small quantity. The white willow, poplar and gray birch are possibly of secondary growth and are constantly increasing in quantity. The moosewood, with its large, broad leaves, flourishes beneath the shade of the forests. Black alder, bearing red berries, is seen upon the roadside, and tag alder

lines the shore of the brooks and the margin of low lands. Red and poison sumac, or dogwood, are rare. Clusters of withe, whitewood, witch and nut hazel, and laurel are found in many places. A few locust — two varieties — butternut or white walnut, and Lombardy poplar have flourished as shade-trees, but are not natives here.

The town originally was heavily wooded. The denizens of the dense forests included a variety of animals common to the locality. In the early progress of the settlement the black bear forsook his favorite haunts without thought of contest or show of resistance. A coward both by instinct and habit he fled at the approach of man. But every solitary bear that since has made a hasty circuit of the town has lived in perennial tradition and has immortalized every man or woman who chanced to behold the fugitive presence. Very few of the early settlers ever beheld the countenance of a living bear. Habitually his face was directed the other way and his eye was ever resting on some distant point he desired to visit. The wolf in early times was more numerous and troublesome. Fifty years ago they had not entirely disappeared.

Traces of beaver dams are not yet wholly obliterated but the builders abruptly refused to labor in competition with man. The track of the otter is yet seen occasionally in the new fallen snow and the mink still inhabits along the courses of the streams. Muskrats with little fear of man continue to build their round moundlike houses in the shallow water of the ponds. Foxes, fed by the garbage of civilization, and the woodchuck, partial to the succulent vegetation of cultivated fields, are probably as numerous as at any former period. The several varieties of squirrels, the hare and the coney rabbit, while limited in the area of their possessions, are relatively numerous. Occasionally the sleepy porcupine is found in his quiet home in a hollow tree and the raccoon visits

the fields of ripening corn from year to year in unequal numbers.

The birds found here are such as are common to the latitude, and other conditions of the town. The melodies that greeted the morning light in the solitudes of the original forests are our delight at the present time. The thrush and the sparrow, first to confide in the mercy of men and nest near the hamlets of the clearing, if not as numerous as formerly, are still the welcome visitors of the summer-time. The red-headed woodpecker, whose animated rappings broke the stillness of the forest, was frequently seen in former years but is now extinct, while the imported sparrow has found its way hither from the seaboard. The wild goose, the black and gray duck, of migratory habits, visit the ponds in their spring and autumn transits. The wood and dipper duck not unfrequently nest here, and can be found in their retreats during the summer and autumn. The loon or northern diver (*Colymbus glacialis*) during the summer months and early autumn is daily seen floating upon the lakes or is heard calling his mate during a flight between the ponds. They frequently nest upon the islands in Upper Naukeag. The wild pigeon is less abundant than formerly, while the sonorous whistle of the quail (*Ortyx virginianus*) is sometimes heard, but this bird seldom nests in this latitude. Partridges (*Tetras umbellus*, or the *Bonasa umbellus* of Linnæus) are abundant, and the loud whirring sound of their wings, as they burst away at the approach of visitors to their haunts, and their animated drumming in the forest continue to attest their familiar presence.

The lakes, reservoirs and rivulets of this town abound in fish peculiar to the waters of this vicinity. So far as known, none of the natives of these waters have become extinct. The black bass, land-locked salmon and lake trout are of recent and artificial introduction. The brook, or spotted

trout, fond of shade and cool water, have been disturbed in their favorite haunts by the removal of the forests, and are less numerous than formerly. The name and the characteristics of the habitants of the lakes and brooks of this town are familiar to all, yet the following list may be of interest at some future time:

The pickerel (*Esox reticulatus*); brook trout (*Salmo fontinalis*); perch (*Perca flavescens*); shiner (*Stilbe chrysolencas*); bream or sunfish (*Pomotis vulgaris*); chub or cheven (*Leuciscus chephalus*); black sucker (*Catostomus*); chub sucker, another of the same genus; the minnow, or minum, a very small fish, and a specie of *Leuciscus;* cat fish or horned pout (*Pimelodus catus*). The common eel (*Anguilla tenuirostris*), and the lamprey eel, a specie of the *Petromyzon*, although rare, are sometimes taken from the ponds.

The most prominent elevation is Great Watatic. Its rounded summit is one thousand eight hundred and forty-seven feet above tide water. This grand and lofty tower on the line of the water-shed, is symmetrical in its form and imposing in its presence, and with grim visage it overlooks the hamlets in the northeast part of the town. In a right line and a mile nearer the old common, is Little Watatic, of similar form and softened outlines. An earlier orthography of these mountains, was Wautatuck. Blood hill, south of Great Watatic, and on the line of Ashby, in the morning light, casts its fretted shadow over the lakes at its base and around its crest the rainbow appears in the lingering rain of an evening shower. Across the intervening valley at the south, is the plateau of Russell hill, once heavily wooded, and now the seat of productive farms. Jewell hill, near at hand, is a sturdy watch-tower on the limits of the town.

East of Rice pond, suddenly rises the bristling form of

Mount Hunger. If its name and sterility are suggestive of famine, its situation near the lake is a safeguard against thirst. And on the line of the water-shed, is Meeting-house hill, which commands an extensive view of the surrounding country. Here our fathers literally went up to worship, and early called it "a hill with a very fair prospect." Brown hill, and the ridges in the northwest part of the town, and other elevations, on which are houses and cultivated fields, would be styled mountains amid surroundings less grand and lofty.

The altitude of the town, and the bold and rugged outlines of the landscape, are the elements of scenery unsurpassed in beauty and grandeur. These features of nature are a living inspiration and enjoyment to all who inhabit here, and treasured among golden memories are the visions of matchless sublimity which delighted the childhood and youth of every absent son and daughter of Ashburnham.

"From such a scene, how many feelings spring!
How many thoughts flash through the kindling mind!
Delightful dreams have birth; — we almost seem
Pass'd to another sphere, — and the glad heart
Forgets that earth is still its transient home.
This is a vision for the rest of life,
An amaranthine tenant for the breast,
A morning star for mem'ry, which, amid
Life's fitful clouds, shall radiantly shine forth.
When scenes less beautiful attract my gaze,
I shall recall thy quiet loveliness."

CHAPTER I.

THE EARLY GRANTS.

SEVEN GRANTS OF LAND. — THE POLICY OF THE GENERAL COURT. — AN ERA OF GRANTS. — THE STARR GRANT. — OWNED BY GREEN, WILDER AND JOSLIN. — THE CAMBRIDGE GRANT. — THE FIRST SURVEY. — THE LEXINGTON GRANT. — SALE OF SAME TO THE GERMANS. — THE BLUEFIELD GRANT. — THE EARLY ROAD TO NORTHFIELD. — THE GRANT SOLD TO WILLIAM JONES AND EPHRAIM WETHERBEE. — THE CONVERSE GRANT. — SALE TO JOSEPH WILDER. — THE ROLFE GRANT. — SALE TO JOHN GREENWOOD. — THE DORCHESTER CANADA OR TOWNSHIP GRANT. — THE CANADA SOLDIERS. — FOUR TOWNS CHARTERED IN ONE ENACTMENT. — THE TOWNSHIP SURVEYED. — AREA. — PERSONAL NOTICES.

ROME was founded on seven hills. Ashburnham was founded on seven grants of land. To give some account of these several grants will be the province of this chapter. One hundred and fifty years ago, Massachusetts was rich in lands, but poor in treasure. The public treasury was continually overdrawn, and in place of money, the unappropriated lands became the currency of the province. Upon the wilderness, the Government made frequent and generous drafts in the payment of a great variety of claims and demands against the colony. At the time these seven grants of land were made, the prolonged controversy concerning the location of the province line between Massachusetts and New Hampshire was being vigorously prosecuted. It was clearly the accepted policy of Massachusetts to fortify her claim to a

large tract of the controverted territory by possession and occupancy, in the hope thereby of maintaining a claim to the domain after all diplomacy had failed. Thus stimulated, both by necessity and policy, the General Court made numerous grants of land in this immediate vicinity, with unmistakable alacrity. It was an era of benevolence. Perceiving the disposition of the Government, many, who could only make the smallest pretext of service rendered the colony by themselves or their ancestors, were found among the petitioners for land. Seldom were their requests denied, and even old claims, which had remained unanswered many years, were suddenly revived and rewarded with generous parcels of the public domain. While this spirit of liberality was rife and condescending, the territory within the ancient boundaries of this township was severed from the wilderness and bestowed in recognition of service rendered the colony.

Included within the limits of Dorchester Canada, were six earlier grants, which were located and surveyed before the bounds of the township had been established. They fell within, yet were independent of, the main grant, as will appear in the progress of our narrative. In regard to the relative dates of these grants, the traditions of the town are not in harmony with the facts, and Whitney's History of Worcester County, 1793, incorrectly asserts: "To the original grant were afterwards added Lexington farm of one thousand acres, Cambridge farm of one thousand acres more, and Rolfe's farm of six hundred acres, and another of about a thousand acres." Rev. Dr. Cushing, in his Half Century Sermon, 1818, repeats the error in nearly the same words: "To the original grant, four farms were annexed: Lexington Farm, Cambridge Farm each of 1000 acres, Rolf's Farm of 7 or 800 acres, and another of 1000." But he nearly corrects the statement when he adds, that "these

farms were located west of Lunenburg and Townsend, and north of Westminster, before this town was granted." It will appear that there were six farms, or grants of land, and that all of them were conveyed and located previous to the grant of Dorchester Canada. In the survey and location of the township, these farms were included within its boundaries, but were not computed as a part of the thirty-six square miles that were conveyed in the grant of the township.

About 1650, Dr. Thomas Starr accompanied, as surgeon, one of the expeditions against the Pequots. This service is the earliest event of which we have any knowledge, that is immediately associated with the history of Ashburnham, and leads directly to the narrative of the first grant of land within this town.

I. THE STARR GRANT. — On account of this service of Dr. Thomas Starr, who died in Charlestown, 1654, his widow, four years later, petitioned for a grant of land, as appears in Court Records, 1658:

Whereas Mr Thomas Starre deceased having left a desolat widdow and eight smale children was y^e^ chirurgeon of one of y^e^ companys y^t^ went against y^e^ Pequotts in Ans^r^ to the Request of Severall Gentl^n^ on y^t^ behalfe.

The Court judgeth it meete to graunt fower hundred acres of Land to y^e^ sayd widow & children & doe impower y^e^ Tresurer and Capt. Norton to make sale or otherwise to dispose of the sayd as may best conduce to y^e^ benefit of the widdow & children as they shall see meete.

It is certain that this grant was never located and that the desolate widow and eight small children did not receive any benefit from the kind intentions of the General Court. Seventy-five years later, the descendants of Dr. Starr revived the claim as set forth in Council Records, October 19, 1733:

A Petition of Benjamin Starr for himself and the rest of the heirs & Descendants of the Widow of Thomas Starr late of Charlestown dec[d] showing that the General Court of the late Colony of the Massachusetts Bay in the year 1658 for Service done by the said Thomas Starr made a Grant of four hundred Acres of Land to his said widow &Children which has not yet been laid out and therefore praying that they may now be allowed to lay out four hundred Acres of the unappropriated Land of the province to satisfy the said Grant.

In the House of Representatives Read & Ordered that the prayer of the petition be granted and the petitioners are allowed and impowered by a Surveyor & Chainmen on Oath to Survey and lay out four hundred Acres of the unappropriated Lands of the province so as not to prejudice the Settlement of a Township & that they return a Plat thereof to this Court within twelve Months for confirmation.

In Council Read & Concurred,

Consented to

J. BELCHER.

Again the petitioners suffered their grant to lapse, and, in November, 1734, the General Court with expansive consideration "ordered that twelve months more be allowed to Benjamin Star of New London and other heirs to take and return a plat of land."

Under the provisions of this vote the grant was consummated and the service of Dr. Starr, after the lapse of nearly a century, was rewarded. The survey was made by Joseph Wilder and returned under date of May 30, 1735.

The chainmen in this survey were John Bennett and Joseph Wheelock. In the mean time the Cambridge farm and the Lexington farm, which were granted in 1734, had been surveyed and confirmed, and the Starr farm, although first granted, became the third in the order of survey. The confirmation or approval by the General Court is under date of June 10, 1735:

A Plat of four hundred Acres of Land Granted to the heirs of the widow Starr laid out by Joseph Wilder Esq^r, Surveyor and Chainmen on oath, lying on the north side of Narragansett Town number two and bounded every other way by Province Lands beginning at a stake & stones on the aforesaid Narragansett Line, Eighty rods west of where the said Line crosses a Branch of Lancaster North River that comes out of Wenecheag pond; thence running north 18 deg^m west three hundred & thirty rods to a stake and stones; thence Running west 18 deg^m South two hundred & Eight rods to a stake & stones; thence Running South 18 deg^m East three hundred & thirty rods to the aforesaid Narragansett Line to a stake & stones; thence with said line East 18 deg^m north two hundred & eight Rods to where it first began.

In the House of Representatives: Read & Ordered that the Plat be accepted and the Lands therein delineated & described be and hereby are confirmed to the said Benjamin Star and the other heirs and descendants of the widow of Dr. Thomas Star deceased their heirs and assigns Respectively provided the plat exceed not the quantity of four hundred Acres of Land and does not Interfere with any former Grant.

Consented to

J. BELCHER.

This tract of land can be easily traced at the present time. It lies on the line between Ashburnham and Westminster, its southeast corner being on the town line four hundred and fourteen rods westerly from the common corner of Ashburnham, Fitchburg and Westminster. It is a rectangle extending three hundred and thirty rods northerly and two hundred and eight rods westerly from the point named. Ten rods were added to the length and eight rods to the width on account of "uneven ground and swag of chain." The homestead of John G. Woodward lies within the grant.

Before the close of the year the heirs sold the grant to Thomas Green, a merchant of Boston, for two hundred

pounds, which then was about two hundred dollars in silver. Six years later Mr. Green sold the whole four hundred acres to Joseph Wilder, Jr., who continued the owner alone and in company with John Joslin until the time it was sold in small lots a number of years later. While Mr. Wilder had possession of this land he also owned the Converse grant which lies next west, and together they were known as the Wilder farm.

II. The Cambridge Grant. — For many years the General Court of the colony made it obligatory upon Cambridge, Newton and Lexington to maintain the bridge spanning Charles river between Brighton and Cambridge. This structure, called the "Great Bridge," was built in 1662 and was justly considered an achievement of considerable magnitude. These towns made frequent requests to be relieved, wholly or in part, from the burden of its support, and finally the three towns joined in a petition to the General Court praying that "they may be in some measure eased of it or that the Court would make them a Grant of Land the better to enable them to support said charge." The Court, apparently, was more inclined to give them land, than to offer or suggest any other relief, and with commendable promptness voted to each of the three towns one thousand acres of land. These grants were made June 22, 1734. Newton located five hundred and sixty-six acres adjoining Athol and Petersham and the remaining four hundred and thirty-four acres at Berwick, Maine. Cambridge and Lexington located their grants within the limits of this town, which for many years were familiarly known as Cambridge and Lexington farms. The Cambridge grant was surveyed previous to September 6, of the same year, for at that date Nathan Heywood made oath that in surveying this grant he had employed his best skill and understanding. The location and survey of the

grant were confirmed September 13, 1734. This grant was the first tract of land severed from the wilderness within the township of Ashburnham and was described in the records:

A Plat Containing one thousand acres of the unappropriated Land of the Province of the massachusetts Bay Laid out to satisfy a Grant made by the great and general court in their last sessions to the Town of Cambridge to enable them the better to keep in Repair their great Bridge over Charles River. Beginning at a certain Pillar of Stones erected for the North east Corner in the line of Lunenburg [now Fitchburg] about three or four score rods South from Northfield Road and running South 12 deg West on said line of Lunenburg one mile and a half and twenty pole with 17 pole allowance for swag of chain and uneven Land to a red oak tree marked. Then running West 12 deg North on unappropriated Land one mile with eleven pole allowance to a pillar of stones and a Little beech tree; the other two lines being paralel with the same allowance and bounding on Common land.

Let it be remembered that in the survey of this grant, in the summer of 1734, Nathan Heywood of Lunenburg performed the first act within the township that is a part of the continuous history of this town. Previous events, more important in their results, occurred remote from the theatre of action. There are records of exploring parties through this town, and Great Watatic, Little Watatic, the Naukeag lakes, Stoger meadow and Souhegan river were associated names at an earlier date. This grant was the first tract of land severed from the unbounded wilderness. There is no record of any previous act performed on the soil that influenced succeeding events. The town of Cambridge owned this tract of one thousand acres about thirty years and during this time the records of that town contain frequent reference to "the Bridge farm in Dorchester Canada." In 1751 the bounds were

renewed by direction of the town, and in the succeeding years several committees were chosen with instruction to sell the land, provided reasonable terms could be secured. These measures for several years were void of any result. In November, 1764, "the town chose Deacon Samuel Whittemore, Thomas Sparhawk, Esq., Joseph Lee, Esq., Captain Ebenezer Stedman and Captain Thomas Adams to effect a sale" and gave them more peremptory instructions in regard to the business. No record of a sale has been found. There is, however, ample evidence that the town of Cambridge sold the land in several lots previous to 1770. In 1768, Captain Thomas Adams owned a portion of the farm and sold to his son John Adams one hundred acres of land "being a part of Cambridge Grant," and later he sold to Joshua Billings eighty acres adjoining. In 1772, the town of Cambridge enter on record an inventory of notes and money "being the proceeds of the sale of Cambridge farm." This record includes a note given by Isaac Stearns of Billerica for two hundred pounds, dated June 3, 1765; a note given by Samuel Russell of Cambridge for ninety-four pounds, six shillings and eight pence, dated August 4, 1769; and a note given by Antil Gallop of Cambridge for one hundred and thirty-three pounds, six shillings and eight pence, dated August 5, 1771.

No conveyance from the town of Cambridge or its committee is found on record, nor is it easy to discover in what manner Gallop and Russell disposed of their land. In regard to the land owned by Isaac Stearns the records in a more accommodating spirit announce that he sold seventy-five acres to Samuel Adams in 1769, and one hundred and forty acres in 1772 to Simeon Proctor and the same year two hundred and fifty acres to Ebenezer Fletcher. In all of these deeds the premises are described "as a part of the Bridge farm or Cambridge grant." It has been frequently

asserted and quite generally believed that this land was once the cherished property of Harvard University. An exhaustive search of the records of that institution not only fails to discover any proof of the allegation but finds ample evidence that the favorite tradition is unsupported and erroneous. In the succeeding chapters the families bearing the name of Adams, Russell, Billings and Fletcher, which have been introduced in these proceedings, will be found in continued occupancy of the premises.

III. THE LEXINGTON GRANT. — It already appears that this grant was simultaneous with the Cambridge grant, and for the same consideration. The survey was returned under date of September 18, and the grant was confirmed November 21, 1734. Ebenezer Prescott was surveyor and Ephraim Wetherbee and Isaac Townsend were chainmen. The report of the survey is here given:

At the Request of Capt. Boman and other Gentlemen of Lexington I have laid out pursuant unto a grant of 1000 acres for the support of Cambridge Bridge, at Stogers west of Little Wetatuck beginning 46 perches S 12 d. west from Lunenburg [now Fitchburg] Corner on South west side of Little Wetatuck to a heap of stones then running N. W. 29 d. N 320 perches as the shanmen [chainmen] say to a Hemlock with stones marked with L about 16 p * * off. then turning S. W. 29 W 500 perches to a Hemlock then turning S E 29 d S 320 perches to a rock with stones laid on it. Then Turning N. E. 29½ d. E 175 perches to the line of Cambridge's 1000 acres. Then turning North 10 perches by the line of said Cambridge corner and then turning by Cambridge Line 40 perches and then to the bounds first mentioned N E 29^{d} E. One perch allowance in 50 for swag of chain.

It will be seen that the northwest corner of Cambridge farm enters one side of this grant, cutting from it one and one-fourth acres. Accompanying the survey is a map defining the location of the brooks and of two meadows. Within

the outlines of the larger of these is written "Stogers medow," which clothes this name with considerable antiquity. On this map, Ward pond is represented a short distance north of the grant, but no name is applied to it. The brook flowing from it is styled Souhegen in one place and Sougan in another. The town of Lexington received no benefit from the grant for more than twenty years, when the town voted "to sell the Bridge farm, so called, that lies in Dorchester Canada, and choose William Reed, Ebenezer Fiske and John Stone to conduct the sale." In a deed dated December 31, 1757, the whole tract was sold to seven German emigrants for two hundred and eighty pounds, who, with others of the same nationality, immediately settled upon their new possessions. The origin of the name of Dutch farms is here easily discovered.

IV. The Bluefield Grant. — This grant of four hundred and fifty acres was made to secure the maintenance of a house of entertainment upon the line of the Northfield road, which was laid out through this town previous to the charter of Dorchester Canada. This grant was located in the northwest part of the town, and upon both sides of that ancient road. In what manner the name of Bluefield became associated with this grant, is uncertain. The earliest records refer to the Bluefield farm and to the Bluefield road, but attentive research finds no explanation of this use of the word. Tradition, ever ready with suggestions, asserts, but without proof, that Mr. Bluefield lived here once upon a time, but the only indisputable thing that we can assert about Bluefield, is our complete ignorance concerning its origin. Happily, the history of the grant is less obscure than its name. To several prominent citizens of Lunenburg had been granted large tracts of land in the southwest part of New Hampshire, above Northfield. These gentlemen mani-

fested a lively interest in the construction and maintenance of the "great road from Lunenburg to Northfield and the new towns at Ashuelot." In the autumn of 1734, Benjamin Bellows, Hilkiah Boynton and Moses Willard joined in a petition for a grant of land to be located at some convenient point on the line of the road. The petition sets forth that the entire length of the road is forty-two miles, and that about twenty-four miles from Lunenburg there is a "house of entertainment set up to the great ease and comfort of persons travelling that road," and continues: "and your Petitioners apprehending it would greatly accomodate Travellers more especially in Winter seasons to have another House of Entertainment between Lunenburg and that already set up Humbly petition your Excellency and this Hon^ble^ Court to make them a Grant of Land, in some suitable place if it be found on said Road, of four hundred and fifty acres of land." In answer to this petition, the General Court, November 28, 1734, granted four hundred and fifty acres on the line of the road and "near to Lexington Farm." It was stipulated in the grant that the survey should be made and returned within six months. The survey was not made until July 2, 1735, for the reasons set forth in another petition from the same gentlemen:

The Petition of Benjamin Bellows for himself Hilkiah Boynton and Moses Willard: —

Humbly Sheweth,

That on the 28th Day of November 1734 your Exelency and Honours were pleased to Grant your Petitioners four Hundred and fifty Acres of Land To be Layed out in a reguler form on the new Road from Lunenburg to Northfield within six months from y^e^ grant afores^d^ On the Conditions mentioned and Expressed in the Grant and order of Court.

That your Petitioners Soon after the making of said Grant were about to Lay out the Land granted Accordingly; And upon the

said Road as then marked out viewed a Tract for that purpose but were told by Coll. Willard and others Concerned in Said Road That it would be necessary to alter the Same and if we Should Lay out the Land before the Road was Altered it might not answer the end proposed viz. the entertainment of Travaillers &c. which occassioned Your Petitioners to Delay Laying out and Building on said Land Till the Time Given your Petitioners was Elapsed. Since Which Your Petitioners by the Advice and the Desire of Col^{l} Willard and Others Chiefly concerned in said Road have Layed Out the Said Tract as Discribed in the plat herewith presented and built thereon a Good Dwelling House And furnished the Same for y^{e} Entertainment of Travailers, Cleared a considerable Quantity of Land and Got Hay Sufficient for the Accomodation of all Travailers using Said Road and have Inhabited for more Than Six months Last past.

And Inasmuch as the only Reason of your Petitioners neglecting to Lay out and comply with the Conditions of said Grant was That the Good Ends proposed thereby might not be frustrated and Travaillers y^{e} better accomodated.

Therefore Your Petitioners Most Humbly pray your Exelency & Honours would be pleased to accept the said plat and Confirm the Land therein discribed To your petitioners their heirs & assigns forever. On Condition they perform upon the Same within Twelve months next coming All Things enjoyned them in the Conditions of y^{e} Grant afores^{d} they have qmitted; The Time being Elapsed as afores^{d} notwithstanding.

And Your Petitioners as bound in Duty shall ever pray.

BENJAMIN BELLOWS.

Tis hereby certifyed that what is Above Suggested Respecting the Turning the Road and the Petitioners building and Improving upon the Land is true.

JOSIAH WILLARD.

The date of this petition does not appear but it was written between July 2, 1735, the date of the survey, and January 17, 1736–7, when the General Court confirmed the grant.

With the original papers in the State archives on this subject is the report of David Farrar, the surveyor, in which it is stated that the grant is located on the Northfield road, partly on the fifteenth and partly on the sixteenth miles from Lunenburg, that it was laid out in the form of a rectangle two hundred and eighty-four by two hundred and seventy rods, with about one rod in thirty allowance for uneven ground; that the direction of the southern boundary is north 70° east, two hundred and eighty-four rods; and is bounded on all sides by unappropriated land. It is also stated that the southwest corner is forty or fifty rods south of a brook and meadow. On the plan is represented the Northfield road entering the grant ten rods north of the southeast corner and extending north 47° west, until it leaves it near the centre of the northern side. In the easterly part of this grant is the farm of the late Deacon Daniel Jones and in the western part is the No. 7 school-house. In 1737, the grantees sold the whole tract to William Jones and Ephraim Wetherbee, both of Lunenburg, for ninety pounds. The same year Mr. Wetherbee sold his interest to Ephraim Wheeler of Lancaster. In these ancient deeds it is called the Bellows farm and the name of Bluefield does not appear. William Jones died in 1761. In his will his interest in this land is devised to two of his sons, Enos and Isaac. The latter son died soon after the death of his honored father and the heirs, in 1773, joined in a deed conveying their interest to Enos who was then residing on the premises.

V. The Converse Grant. — Several grants of land were bestowed upon the heirs of Major James Converse of Woburn in recognition of distinguished service rendered the colony, among them was a grant of four hundred acres of land located in this town. In the House of Representatives, December 9, 1734, it was ordered that the petition of Robert

and Josiah Converse, sons of Major James Converse, be revived and that they be granted four hundred acres on the condition that "within five years the petitioners settle two families on the granted premises, each of which to have an house of eighteen feet square and seven feet stud at the least and four acres each brought to and plowed or stocked with English grass and fitted for mowing." The land was surveyed by Joseph Wilder in May and the title confirmed by the General Court June 10, 1735. The descriptive portion of these papers is as follows:

Said land lieth on the northerly side of one of the towns called Narragansett viz: No. 2 and bounds Southerly thereon. Easterly it bounds on a farm of four hundred acres laid out to the heirs of Thomas Starr, Northerly and Westerly by common or province lands. It began at stake and stones the South Corner of the aforesaid farm and from thence it ran with it North 18 degrees West three hundred and thirty Rods to a stake and stones; from thence it ran west 18 degrees South Two hundred and Eight rods to a stake and stones; and from thence it ran South Eighteen degrees East three hundred and thirty Rods to the aforesaid Narragansett line to a stake and stones and then with said line East 18 degrees North two hundred and eight rods to where it began.

In other terms this grant was located on the Westminster line extending west from the Starr grant nearly to South Ashburnham village. Robert Converse immediately sold his interest to his brother Josiah, who sold it to Gershom Keyes of Boston, October 10, 1735, for one hundred and fifty pounds. It passes through several hands and is soon sold to Hezekiah Gates, who in 1746 sold it to Joseph Wilder, Jr., and as stated it then became a part of the Wilder farm.

VI. The Rolfe Grant.—Rev. Benjamin Rolfe, the second minister of Haverhill, was slain by the Indians in their attack upon that town August 29, 1708. His wife and

one child were also killed. "Two daughters were preserved by Hagar, the maid servant, who covered them with tubs in the cellar." A son also escaped as appears in the records of this grant. The surviving children are petitioners in 1735 for a tract of land on account of the service of their father and were granted six hundred acres which subsequently became and still remains an important part of this town. The records of the General Court recites the petition in these words:

A Petition of Benjamin Rolfe and the Rest of the heirs of the Rev^{d} M^{r} Benjamin Rolfe, late of Haverhill deceased, showing that his said father was employed divers times as Chaplin to the Forces in the late wars and once in an actual Engagement with the Indian Enemy and afterwards settled in the work of the Ministry at Haverhill where he with their mother was killed by the Indians and therefore praying that this Court would Grant to the Pet^{r} and his sisters some of the waste lands of the Province.

In response to their petition the General Court June 17, 1735, granted six hundred acres. The land was surveyed by Joseph Wilder, previous to November 7, when the chainmen, John Bennett and Joseph Wheelock, made oath that they had performed the service "without favor or affection and according to their best judgment." The grant was confirmed December 23, 1735.

This tract of land, known many years as the Rolfe farm, is located in the southeast corner of this town between the Starr and the Cambridge grants. It is bounded east 120 rods by Fitchburg, south 414 rods by Westminster, west 330 rods by the Starr grant, and northerly 320 rods by Cambridge grant and a line of 210 rods joining the corners of the two last named grants. Phillips' Brook and the Fitchburg road divide this tract into two unequal portions, the

greater part lying east of them. Northerly it extends one mile from the Westminster line or to the farm of the late Dr. Merrick Wallace. The Rolfe heirs retained the grant until 1750 when it was sold to John Greenwood of Boston for two hundred and thirty pounds. He sold it out in the years immediately following in several lots, and in this way it came into the possession of the early settlers.

VII. The Dorchester Canada or Township Grant. —The immediate consideration leading to the grant of this township and others in the vicinity, is found in connection with the expedition to Canada in 1690. The story of this ill-fated exploit forms an interesting chapter in the early history of New England. The hardships and misfortunes of the hazardous enterprise were shared by companies of soldiers from Dorchester, Ipswich, Rowley and many other towns in the colony. In fitting out a force of two thousand soldiers and thirty-two ships the treasury of the colony was so greatly depleted that nothing was left for the payment of the soldiers on their return. In this emergency the colony resorted to the issue of treasury notes to the amount of one hundred and thirty-three thousand pounds which was the first paper money ever issued in New England. These notes, founded simply on the good intentions of an impoverished colony, so rapidly depreciated in value that the soldiers, to whom they had been paid, sought indemnity from the General Court. For a long time their solicitations were persistently pressed and renewed without avail until an era of grants of land came to their relief. About 1735, after many of the petitioners were dead, the General Court, influenced, possibly, as much by a newly formed policy of encouraging settlements along the line of the disputed boundaries between New Hampshire and Massachusetts, as by any other consideration, granted a township to each company of sixty soldiers

and the heirs of those deceased. On account of the service for which they were bestowed these grants were styled Canada townships and they generally received the additional name of the town in which a majority of the petitioners resided. To the soldiers from Dorchester were assigned this town which bore the name of Dorchester Canada many years. In the same manner and at the same time was granted Ipswich Canada, now Winchendon, and immediately after Rowley Canada, now Rindge. There were many other Canada townships but not in this immediate vicinity. The adjustment of the province line found several of these townships in New Hampshire and their charters were annulled.

In January, 1735, the General Court, premonitory to some action in the premises, ordered the appointment of a committee to take into consideration these petitions of the soldiers and "report what may be proper for the Court to do." The day following, the committee cleared the deck for action in recommending that a township of six miles square be granted to every collection of sixty soldiers or the heirs of those deceased and that these grants be located between the Merrimack and Connecticut rivers. The committee further recommended that these grants be given under certain restrictions, which need not be stated in this connection, as they are repeated in the charters that were subsequently enacted. Without great delay, four townships were granted under one charter which passed the House June 10, the Council June 18, and was approved by Governor Belcher, December 29, 1735. In the order named in the charter these towns are now known as Warwick, Ashburnham, Guilford, Vermont, and Winchendon, and all of them are of equal age. Should the neighboring towns, Ashburnham and Winchendon, contend for the honors of antiquity, we can enjoy the ample consolation that in the charter, the name of Tilestone precedes that of Tilton.

It would be easy to be led into the error of presuming that each of these towns was created under a specific grant, for the Deputy Secretary made copies for the grantees of each town. In some of them, at least, is omitted all reference to the three remaining towns. These copies have been mistaken for independent charters. The quadripartite grant or charter is here given:

In the House of Representatives June 10, 1735.

In Answer to the four Petitions of Samuel Newel and others, Thomas Tilestone and others, Samuel Gallop and others, and Abraham Tilton and others:

Voted, That four Several Tracts of Land for Townships each of the Contents of Six Miles Square be Laid out in Suitable Places in the western Parts of this Province and that the whole of each Town be laid out into Sixty three equal Shares, one of which to be for the first Settled minister, one to be for the use of the Ministry and one for the School; and that on the other Sixty Shares in each Town there be Sixty Settlers admitted and in the admission thereof Preference to be given to the Petitioners and such as are Descendents of the officers and soulders who Served in the Expedition to Canada in the year 1690. Viz one Tract of Land for a Township to the said Samuel Newell & others, one other Tract of Land to the said Thomas Tilestone and others, one other Tract of Land to the said Samuel Gallop and others and the other Tract of Land to the said Abraham Tilton and others and in Case there be not a sufficient number of Persons named in each of the said four Petitions as ware either officers or Soulders in the said Expedition or the Descendants of Such as were lost or are since Deceased So as to make Sixty Settlers for each Town. That then Such others as ware in the Expedition or their Descendants be admitted Settlers there untell Sixty Persons in each Town be admitted and inasmuch as the officers and Soulders in that Expedition ware very great Sufferers and underwent uncommon Hardships, Voted that this Province be at the Sole Charge of laying out the said four

Townships in a Regular manner and of admitting the Settlers. — That the Settlers or Grantees be and hereby are obliged to bring forward the Settlement of the said four Townships in as Regular & defensible a manner as the Situation and the Circumstances of the Places will admit of, and that in the following manner, Viz. That they be on the Granted Premises Respectively and have each of them an House of eighteen Feet square and seven Feet stud at the least. That each Right or Grant have six Acres of Land brought to and Plowed or brought to English Grass and fitted for mowing. That they respectively Settle in each Plantation or Township a Learned and Orthodox minister and Bild a Convenient Meeting House for the Publick Worship of God in each Township. The whole of these Conditions to be duly complied with within five years from the Confirmation of the Plats.

And that John Bowles and John Metcalf Esq^{rs} with such as the Honourable Board shall appoint be the Committee for laying out the Township hereby Granted to Samuel Newell and others; Thomas Tilestone Esq^{r} and M^{r} William Royall with such as the Honourable Board shall appoint shall be the Committee for laying out the Township hereby granted to Thomas Tilestone & others; Charles Church and Joseph Mason Esq^{rs} with such as the Honourable Board shall appoint be the Committee for laying out the Township hereby granted to Samuel Gallop and others; and Cap^{t} John Hobson and Cap^{t} John Choate with such as the Honoura^{ble} Board shall appoint be the Committee for Laying out the Township hereby granted to Abraham Tilton & others, for laying out the Townships Respectively & admitting the Settlers as aforesaid who shall take Bond of each Grantee to the Value of Twenty Pounds to the Province Treasurer for the Respective Grantees Fullfillment of the Conditions of their Grants each lot as aforesaid to be entitled to and draw future Divisions in equal Proportions in the Townships or Plantations Respectively and that the Committee return the Plats of the said Townships to this Court within twelve months for Confirmation, as also a List of the Names of the Respective Grantees and their Place of Residence into the Secretarys Office that so the same may be examined and

Regulated by a Committee that may be hereafter for that Purpose appointed by the Court and further it is ordered that in case any of the Grantees shall neglect or delay to fullfill the Terms of this Grant such Person or Persons shall forfeit to the Province all his or their Right and Interest in the land hereby granted.

Sent up for Concurrence

J. QUINCY, Spkr.

In Council June 18 1735: —

Read & Concurred, and ordered that William Dudley Esq^{r} be joyned to the Committee for laying out the first Township, Joseph Wilder Esq^{r} for the second, Edward Goddard Esq^{r} for the third and Thomas Berry Esq^{r} for the fourth Township.

J. WILLARD Sec^{ry}

December 29 Consented to J. BELCHER.

Immediately following the grant of these townships the General Court instructed the several committees charged with the distribution of the land to give "preference to the eldest male heir if such there be otherwise to the eldest female" and that the heir of any soldier deceased receiving a right or one-sixtieth part of a township, "shall pay the other descendants or heirs of the deceased soldier their proportionable part of ten pounds." These committees were further instructed to exercise "the Best Care they Can in Examining and Regulating the Claims of all Persons that shall appear as Heirs, Descendants or Representatives to make and keepe fair Lists of the names and Places of Residence of the Respective Grantees or Settlers of the said Towns in order to prevent Mistakes in settleing and Regulating the Claims and admission of the Grantees." At the same time it was ordered that if the expense of surveying and admitting settlers exceed fifty pounds the excess should be paid by the grantees. The former vote to pay the whole expense had been in consideration that "the officers and soldiers in that expedition ware very

great sufferers and underwent uncommon Hardships." In the amended vote it is made reasonably certain that their estimate of the great suffering and uncommon hardship of every sixty soldiers and the heirs of those deceased did not exceed, when expressed in financial terms, the sum of fifty pounds.

Under the direction of the committee consisting of Joseph Wilder, Thomas Tilestone and William Royal, the township of Dorchester Canada was promptly surveyed by Jonas Houghton. The report of the survey dated January, 1736, the day of the month omitted, is substantially repeated in the act of confirmation which was passed June 1, 1736.

A Plat of a Tract of Six miles Square Granted to Thomas Tilestone Esq & others for a Township laid out by Jonas Houghton Survey^{r} and Chainmen on oath, Bounding Southerly on the Narragansett Township No two; Westerly by a Township laid out for Tilton & others Northerly by a Township laid out for Ipswich and Easterly part on Townshend and part on Lunenburg. It begins at a Hemlock the North Easterly Corner of the said Narragansett Town & Runs West 18 deg. South seven Miles wanting twenty Rods from thence North 12 deg East Eight miles & two hundred Rods. and from East 12 deg South Seven miles and 100 perch from thence Southerly by said Townshend line One thousand One hundred & twenty & by Lunenburg line Six hundred & twenty Rods to where it first began.

In the House of Represent^{a}: Read and Ordered that the within plat be and hereby is accepted and the Lands therein Delineated & Described are accordingly Confirmed to the Grantees Mentioned in the Petition of Thomas Tilestone Esq^{r} and others in behalf of the officers and Soldiers in the Canada Expedition Anno 1690 which passed this Court in their late Sittings and to their heirs and assigns and Lawfull Represent^{ves} Respectively forever: they Complying with the Conditions of the Grant. Provided the Plat exceeds not the quantity of Six Miles Square with an addition of Three Thousand Eight hundred and Fifty Acre

formerly Granted and contained in the plat and three hundred acres allowed for Ponds and does not Interfere with any former Grant.

In Council Read & Concurred
Consented to J. BELCHER.

Our new township now assumes the name of Dorchester Canada, which it retains until the incorporation of Ashburnham in 1765. As yet it is merely a defined portion of the wilderness. The rudest habitation of man has nowhere a place in the unbroken forest. The echoes from the bustle and activity of civilization have never answered back from the surrounding hills nor floated over the lakes. But now the compass and the chain, the heralds of the approach of man, hem the forests within the pale of the axe and the torch and the greed of gain fastens its despoiling hands upon the hills and the valleys which for centuries have been sleeping in the beauty and quietude of nature.

The influences which guided the committee to this locality can never be fully known. The assignment of any reason, at this late day, is speculative. If they came by the way of Lunenburg this was the first unappropriated land they had found. It is a fact, also, that one of the committee was not a stranger to the place. The summer preceding Joseph Wilder had been here as the surveyor of the Starr, the Converse and the Rolfe grants.

The attentive reader has observed that in the act of confirmation, Dorchester Canada is bounded on all sides by township lines. A literal construction of the terms employed would lead to the conclusion that the committee here found a tract of unappropriated land entirely surrounded by established towns, with an area so accommodating that an exact equivalent to six miles square was conveniently left for their

acceptance. The terms defining the western and northern boundaries need explanation. At this time Tilton's town or Ipswich Canada had not been surveyed, but it is within reason to infer there was an understanding between the two committees that Ipswich Canada was to be located next west of Dorchester Canada. In fact, Ipswich Canada was not laid out until the summer following. New Ipswich bounding on the north had not been surveyed at this time, but it was located before Dorchester Canada was confirmed. The south and the east boundaries were already established and now the surveyor runs the west line parallel to the old Lunenburg line and the north line at a right angle and locates them so as to include the required area.

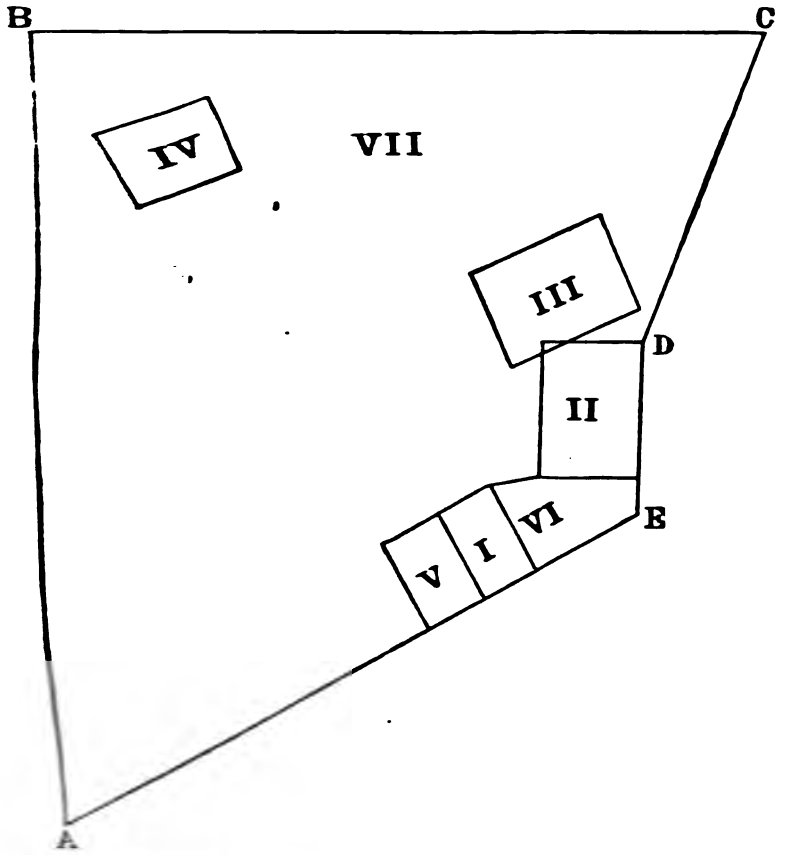
The allowance of 3850 acres for former grants and 300 acres for ponds required the surveyor to lay out 27,190 acres instead of 23,040 stipulated in the charter. The survey contained about 27,700 acres which was not an unusual allowance for uneven ground.

In this account of the several grants an attempt has been made to discover where each was located and for what consideration it was bestowed. An outline sketch, at the close of this chapter, presents a summary view of the form and relative position of the township and the six smaller and earlier grants which were included within its boundaries. The lapse of time will add interest to these initial features of our local history. In these early grants, extending wider and wider from the centres of population, new fields were dedicated to the occupancy of man. To this portion of the wilderness which has now been located and outlined the succeeding chapters will welcome the arrival of the settlers, and attend them while they fell the forest, build houses for their families, establish churches and schools and wisely direct the civil affairs of the new settlement.

Many of the persons named in this chapter will appear again. Unless incidentally mentioned the names of others associated with these events will not be repeated in the following chapters. Ebenezer Prescott, Jonas Houghton and David Farrar, the surveyors, were residents of Lancaster. Jonas Houghton was also employed in the original survey of New Ipswich. Ephraim Wetherbee and Hilkiah Boynton were of Lunenburg. Ephraim Wetherbee was chainman for Nathan Heywood in the first survey of Rindge. Colonel Josiah and Moses Willard were leading men in Lunenburg at the date of their mention in this chapter. They were among the grantees of Winchester, New Hampshire, and became prominent in the annals of Cheshire county. Their only interest in this town was in connection with the Northfield road which extended through the township and opened a way to their lands in New Hampshire.

Colonel Benjamin Bellows was also of Lunenburg at this date. Subsequently he removed to Walpole, New Hampshire, which for a time was called Bellowstown. Combined with a remarkable business capacity were energy and decision of character. It was his son Benjamin who was a general in the Revolution and through a long and useful life distinguished in civil affairs.

Major James Converse was of Woburn where he closed an active and eventful life July 8, 1706. He was a member of the General Court and three times elected speaker of the House. In military affairs he was equally distinguished and his gallant defence of Storer's garrison in 1688 is mentioned in complimentary terms in the histories of the time. His sons, Robert and Josiah, to whom the land in this town was granted on account of the service of their father, were influential citizens of Woburn, although for a short time Josiah is found residing in Leicester.



A B — Ipswich Canada Line — South part now in Gardner.
B C — New Ipswich Line — now New Ipswich and Rindge.
C D — Old Townsend Line — now in Ashby.
D E — Old Lunenburg Line — now Fitchburg.
A E — Westminster Line — West part now in Gardner.
I — Starr Grant.
II — Cambridge Grant.
III — Lexington Grant.
IV — Bluefield Grant.
V — Converse Grant.
VI — Rolfe Grant.
VII — Dorchester Canada.

CHAPTER II.

PROPRIETARY HISTORY.

THE TOWNSHIP AWARDED TO SIXTY PERSONS. — THEIR INFLUENCE OVER THE SETTLEMENT. — PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIRST MEETING. — CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP OF THE PROPRIETORS. — HOUSE LOTS SURVEYED. — SITE FOR MEETING-HOUSE SELECTED. — SAW-MILL PROPOSED. — SECOND DISTRIBUTION OF LAND. — A FULLING-MILL SUGGESTED. — THE FIRST MEETING-HOUSE. — WAR WITH HEZEKIAH GATES. — THE PROVINCE LINE. — MOSSMAN'S INN. — FEAR OF INDIANS. — BLOCK-HOUSE BUILT. — THE SETTLEMENT TEMPORARILY ABANDONED. — THE SITUATION. — CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP OF THE PROPRIETORS. — PERSONAL NOTICES. — MOSSMAN'S PETITION.

DORCHESTER CANADA now falls into the possession of its new proprietors. Three shares or rights are reserved for public uses, and sixty are bestowed upon the persons contemplated by the charter. Thus each person to whom is allotted a right becomes the owner of one sixty-third part of the township. The committee promptly completed the service enjoined in the charter by naming the persons who were entitled to a share in the grant. Fifty-four rights were bestowed on account of service under Captain John Withington of Dorchester, and six to the soldiers, or their legal representatives, in other companies. Fortunately the report of this committee has been preserved. It presents a sad record of mortality. Only one soldier, Philip Godding, comes forward and receives in person this late reward for service to the colony. It is certain, however, that a few others, repre-

sented on this occasion by their relatives, were still living. The sixty rights in the township were assigned as follows:

1 — Thomas Wilder of Lancaster in Right of His wife Susannah eldest Daughter to John Pope.

2 — John Swift Junr of Framingham in the Right of His Father Mr John Swift eldest Brother to William Swift.

3 — Joseph Warren of Roxbury in the Right of Elias Monk of Stoughton.

4 — Benjamin Cheney of Dorchester in the Right of his Brother William Cheney.

5 — Joseph Triscott of Dorchester in the Right of His Father Joseph Triscott.

6 — Humphrey Atherton of Stoughton in the Right of His Father Consider Atherton.

7 — Jonathan Chandler of Dorchester in the Right of His Brother Samuel Chandler.

8 — Matathias Evens of Dorchester in the Right of His Brother Richard Evens at the Desire of his Eldest Brother Thomas Evens.

9 — John Toalman Junr in the Right of His Father John Toalman of Dorchester and at His Desire.

10 — Seth Sumner of Milton in the Right of His Uncle Josianiah Sumner at the Desire of His uncle William Sumner.

11 — John Robinson Junr of Dorchester in Behalf of his Father John Robinson eldest Brother to James Robinson.

12 — Ebenezer Crane of Braintree in the Right of Ebenezer Crane.

13 — William Blake of Milton in the Right of James Morey in Behalf of his Mother Martha Blake eldest Daughter to said James Morey.

14 — John Andrews of Dorchester in the Right of His Brother Thomas Andrews.

15 — Joseph Leads of Dorchester in Behalf of His Wife Mary eldest Sister to Joseph Weeks.

16 — Thomas Lyon Junr of Dorchester in Behalf of His Father Thomas Lyon Eldest Brother to Henry Lyon.

17 — Richard Withington of Dorchester in the Right of His Father Capt John Withington.

18 — Joseph Weeks of Dorchester in the Right of His Brother Thomas Weeks.

19 — Mr William Cooper of Boston in the Right of Benjamin Hewins, at the Desire of Joseph Hewins eldest Brother of said Benjamin Hewins.

20 — Obadiah Swift of Dorchester in the Right of His Brother James Swift.

21 — Hezekiah Barber of Dorchester in the Right of Yonnite Modsley at the Desire of His Brother Thomas Modsley.

22 — Ralph Pope of Dorchester in the Right of His Brother Ebenezer Pope.

23 — Samuel Butt of Dorchester in the Right of His Uncle Richard But.

24 — David Joans of Wrentham in the Right of His Uncle John Joans.

25 — Samuel Sumner of Taunton in the Right of His Father Samuel Sumner.

26 — Josiah Baker of Boston in the Right of His Uncle William Baker.

27 — Mr. William Cooper of Boston in the Right of His Uncle George Menott.

28 — Edward Kelton of Dorchester in the Right of His Father Thomas Kelton.

29 — Robert Redman of Stoughton in the Right of His Father Charles Redman.

30 — Samuel Kneeland of Boston in the Right of Ammiel Weeks at the Desire of His son George Weeks.

31 — Neamiah Clap of Milton in the Right of His Brother Edward Clap.

32 — Timothy Tilestone of Dorchester in the Right of His Brother Cornelius Tilestone.

33 — Samuel Hinshua of Milten in the Right of Daniel Hinshua His Uncles son.

34 — Edward Sumner of Roxbury in the Right of His Uncle Samuel Sumner.

35 — Benjamin Sumner of Milten in the Right of His Brother William Sumner.

36 — Robert Cook of Needham in the Right of His Brother William Cook.

37 — Bartholame Gold of Boston in the Right of His Uncle Ebenezer Sumner.

38 — John Charhore of Milten in the Right of His Uncle John Charhore.

39 — Benjamin Bird Junr of Dorchester in the Right of His Uncle Thomas Bird.

40 — Samuel Blake of Taunton in the Right of His uncle William Blake.

41 — Thomas Tilestone Esqr of Dorchester in the Right of Capt. John Galliver at the desire of Jonathan Galliver who was admitted a Settler.

42 — Timothy Mossman of Sudbury in the Right of His wive's Brother Samuel Hix.

43 — Joshua George of Attleborough in the Right of His Brother William George.

44 — James Atherton of Harvard in the Right of His Uncle Joseph Atherton.

45 — William Sumner of Milton in the Right of William Sumner His Uncle Increase Sumners Son.

46 — Elizabeth Trescott of Milton in the Right of Her Brother Samuel Trescott.

47 — Joseph Chaplin of Roxbury in the Right of His Brother Moses Chaplin.

48 — Hezekiah Barber of Dorchester in the Right of Eliab Lyen at the Desair of Zachariah Lyon Son of Nathaniel Lyon Eldest Brother to said Eliab Lyon.

49 — Waitestill Lyon of Dorchester in the Right of Her Uncle Edward Wiat.

50 — Benjamin Mansfield of Dorchester in the Right of His Neffue Peter Kelley.

51 — Samuel Burch of Dorchester in the Right of His Uncle Eliazer Wales.

52 — Isaac How of Dorchester in the Right of His Cussen Joseph Curtice.

53 — Thomas Tilestone Esq^{r} of Dorchester in the Right of Hopestill Sanders in Behalf of John Sanders.

54 — William Royal of Stoughton in the Right of Samuel Sanders in Behalf of John Sanders.

55 — John Sheperd of Stoughton in the Right of His Uncle John Sheperd — Maj^{r} Wade.

56 — Philip Gooding of Stoughton who sarved under Maj^{r} Wade.

57 — Joseph Wilder Esq^{r} of Lancaster in the Right of His Uncle Samuel Wheeler who sarved in the Expedition to Canada under Maj^{r} Nathanel Wade.

58 — Nathan Heywood of Lunenburg in the Right of John Willis His Wives Father who sarved under Capt Savage.

59 — Oliver Wilder of Lancaster in the Right of Jonathan Fairbank who sarved under Cap^{t} Champney.

60 — Joseph Wheelock of Lancaster in the Right of His Uncle Timothy Wheelock who sarved under Cap^{t} Anderson.

Except Timothy Mossman, none of these original proprietors ever resided in the township, yet several of them, or their sons, retained their interest and attended the meetings of the propriety for many years. The Wilders, the Sumners, Joseph Wheelock, Nathan Heywood and Hezekiah Barber became intimately associated with the fortunes of the settlement. The descendants of several of these proprietors were subsequently among the most useful and valued citizens of Ashburnham. Here is found the probable cause which led to a residence here of the Wilder, Kelton and Crehore families. And in the succeeding records, as the change of ownership introduces new names, will appear the first mention of other families which have been honorably associated with the annals of the town. A miniature town was con-

cealed in this report of 1736. To sixty men and their successors was committed the destiny of a future Ashburnham. Had the decision of the committee passed by these names and bestowed the grant on sixty other persons, the drama would have proceeded with the scene unchanged, but the actors and all the incidents of the play would have been changed. A town with a parallel history would have succeeded, but the name, the men, the order and color of the events would not be those which fill the pages of our annals.

While these proceedings were in progress, the General Court had passed an order empowering Timothy Tilestone to call the first meeting of the proprietors. This warrant is dated September 8, 1736, and the meeting was assembled in Dorchester fourteen days later. The proceedings of the first meeting outline plans and projects for the benefit of the proposed settlement which are not consummated for many years. The record of the meeting is as follows:

Att a Meeting of the Proprietors of a Township Granted to the Officers and Soldiers in the Expedition to Canada anno 1690 in the Company under the Command of Capt John Withington late Deceased on the 22 Day of Sept 1736 att the Turkshead in Dorchester, Legally warned.

Voted That Thomas Tilestone Esqr be moderator.

Voted To Lay out the Land as Soon as may be.

Voted the first Division Lots to be fifty acres and the Committee to ad thereto for badness of Land.

Voted That the Committee shall Consist of Six men and four of them to be a quorum.

Voted That Edward Hartwell Esq. Benjamin Bird Mr Samuel Sumner Mr Benjamin Sumner Mr Isaac Howe & Joseph Wilder Esqr be a Committee to Lay out the first Division Lots.

Voted That the Committee do agree with the Surveyors and Chain men.

Voted That the Surveyors each Shall have fifteen shillings per Day, they to support them Selves.

Voted That the Chainmen each Shall have ten Shillings per Day they to support them Selves.

Voted That the Committee Shall have Twelve Shillings per Day they to Support them Selves.

Voted That when an so often as any five or more of the Proprietors shall judge a Proprietor's Meeting to be necessary they may make Application to the Proprietors Clerk for the Calling of a meeting Expressing the time and the place and the Occasion thereof and the said Clerk is hereby Impowered to Grant the same for such Meeting accordingly and to Notify the Proprietors of the Said Meeting and the time and place for the same, which Notification Shall be given in Writing Posted up in Some Public Place or Places in Dorchester, Milton, & Stoughton Fourteen Days before the Day appointed for the Meeting and the Notification to be put to the Public Prints.

Voted to have a Clerks Book.

Voted that evry Proprietor to have a Plan of his first Division Lot he Paying for the same.

Voted That evry Proprietor Come att the Next Meeting to Draw his first Division Lot, he to pay for the Laying of said Lot out before he Draws said Lot.

Voted That the Committee Vew a Convenant Spot for the Meeting House and that the said Committee leve Convenant High ways.

Voted to leve Convenant Places for a Mill or Mills Common for the use of the Proprietors.

Voted that the Committee leve out thouse peices of Medow they think Proper to be left out for the use of the Proprietors.

Voted that Benjamin Bird be the Proprietor's Clerk and the said Bird tuck the following oath:

Whereas you Benjamin Bird are Chosen by a Majority of the Voters to be Clerk to the Proprietors of the Township Granted by

the General Court to the Company under Capt. Withington in the Expedition to Canada You do Swear by the true and everliving God that you will Duly and faithfully Discharge that Trust according to your best Skill and Knowledge. So Help you God.

PROVINCE OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BAY S S.

Sept. the 22th 1736.

Then the above Named Benjamin Bird Parsonally appearing made Oath as above. Before me

JOSEPH WILDER Justice of the Peace through the Province.

Thus ends the record of the first meeting of the proprietors. An organization had been effected and the clerk had been sworn in solemn form. It is worthy of note that after taking the oath Mr. Bird seldom again spelled *at* with two ts while he held the office. His best skill and judgment had been invoked. At this meeting appears for the first time Edward Hartwell of Lunenburg. He was not an original proprietor but had purchased a right of Joseph Leads and became an active and leading member of the organization. Thomas Tilestone, to whom in the admission of proprietors was assigned two rights, now owns the former rights of John Chandler and Samuel Burch; the four rights were probably acquired by purchase. Although the figure head of the petition to the General Court it does not appear that Mr. Tilestone was entitled by inheritance to any interest in the grant which had been secured mainly through his influence. William White now owns the right of David Jones and the right of Waitstill Lyon is held by Thomas Stearns. Jonathan Dwight of Boston takes the place of Joseph Chaplin, and Andrew Wilder, Jr., of Lancaster, is the owner of one of the rights of Hezekiah Barber, while James Mears and Timothy Green represent the rights formerly of Benjamin Cheney and Elizabeth Triscott.

A spirit of activity pervades the record of the first meeting. Hardly had a moderator been chosen before a vote was passed to lay out a house lot for each proprietor "as soon as may be." Five days after the meeting, the six members of the committee, in full sympathy with the zealous enthusiasm of their associates, attended by two surveyors and nine chainmen and assistants, are upon the ground. For fifteen days the stillness of the woods is broken by the sound of the axe and the strong voices of sturdy men. In their dying echoes is heard the doom of the primeval forest. The sleep of centuries is ended. The entire expanse of foliage warmed in an autumn sun will never again present its varied hues in an unbroken picture of grandeur and beauty. The despoiling agency of man has been invoked and soon the flame and smoke from the clearing of the settler will announce the preparation for his habitation. Under the direction of the committee sixty-three house lots are laid out by Andrew Wilder, Jr., and Joseph Wilder, Jr. The chainmen and assistants were nearly all proprietors who had come hither to view their new possessions. These lots were located on the west, south and east shores of Upper Naukeag lake, then extending south through the Centre Village and east to Cambridge farm, then westerly on the north lines of the Rolfe, Starr and Converse farms and on the west line of the latter farm to the line of Westminster, covering the site of the South Village, but not so far west as the line of the Cheshire and Vermont and Massachusetts railroads. Two lots were detached and located in the present limits of Ashby. The remaining lots were in one continuous tract of irregular form. In these lots were included three thousand one hundred and fifty acres, exclusive of any allowance that might have been made for inequality of land. The remainder of the grant, or above three hundred acres for each right, was still owned

in common by the proprietors. These surveys were completed October 11. Meanwhile the committee had selected a site for the meeting-house and had laid out roads leading to it. For this service the committee and those employed by them were paid £152–16–6. The sum of £2 was "Paid Sundry People at Sundry times for Bringing the Horses out of the woods," while £2–19 was paid for pasturing horses, which possibly indicates that some of the horses were pastured at expense on improved lands in Lunenburg, being more highly favored than those let loose in the woods.

The second meeting of the proprietors was held November 10, of the same year. While it was assembled under a new warrant, or notification, as our worthies styled it, it was practically a continuation of the former meeting. The account of the committee already mentioned was allowed and to pay the same an assessment was ordered. This action called for a new class of officials. Samuel Sumner and Edward Hartwell were chosen assessors, Thomas Lyon, Jr., collector, and Benjamin Bird, treasurer. The following extract from the records outlines the most important of the proceedings:

Voted the Confirmation of the place Marked out by the Committee for Building the Meeting House on, and the Highways they have Laid out thereunto in Said Town. The Meeting House Lot Contains 10 acres lying squar and it Lieth on a Hill 180 Rods South of a Greate Pond and has a very faire Prospeck. The North East Corner is a young Pitch Pine and thence it Runs west 40 Rods to a stake and Pillar of Stons and thence South 40 Rods to a stake and Heep of Stones and thence it Runs East 40 Rods to a stake and Heepe of Stons and thence it Runs North 40 Rods to whare it began.

Voted to Clear the Highway, and Edward Hartwell Esq^{r}, Capt. Oliver Wilder and M^{r} Joseph Wheelock were Chosen a

Committee for that Sarvice and also to Fire the Woods the first Convenant time.

Voted that Edward Hartwell Esq^{r}, Capt Oliver Wilder and M^{r} Joseph Wheelock be a Committee to a Gree with a Sutable Person or Persons to Build a Sawmill in said Town in the most Convenant Place that they Can find therefor. and That in Giving encurragement to any Person to undertake therein they do not exceed one Hundred acres of Land and that they oblige the Person so undertaking (by Bond or other ways) to have the Mill Going within the space of five months and to Keep the same in Repair for the space of Ten years and that he saw Boards for the Proprietors for forty shillings a Thousand and Saw timber Brought to said Mill for Twenty shillings a Thousand and other Timber Proportionable.

The same month the committee charge the proprietors for four days each, three hired laborers four days each and one man one day in clearing the roads leading to the place set apart for the meeting-house and a common, which we are here informed and fully realize "has a very faire Prospeck."

At this meeting the house or first division lots are distributed among the proprietors. The eighth lot is reserved for the ministry, the ninth for schools and the fifty-seventh for the first settled minister. Here ends the record of the first year. A New England winter regains control of the wilderness and for a time closes the door against the progress of the settlement.

1737. With the arrival of spring, the committee chosen for that purpose enter into negotiations with Hezekiah Gates of Lancaster to build a saw-mill within the township for the accommodation of the settlement. The committee grant him ninety acres of land, lying on the stream between the Upper and Lower Naukeag lakes and receive from him a bond of five hundred pounds, obliging him to build and conduct the

mill on the terms outlined in the vote of the proprietors. The charges of the committee for their services establish the date of these proceedings:

1737 May 17 the Committee four days each with the man that is to Build the saw mill @ 10ˢ	£6 —	0 —	0 —
½ day each to signe the Righting	0 —	15 —	0 —
the writings with Mʳ Gates	0 —	3 —	0 —

In effecting an agreement with Mr. Gates the committee consume ample time in its consideration and apparently conduct the business to the present satisfaction of the proprietors, but in the years immediately following both Mr. Gates and his mill were an endless source of perplexity and litigation. The proprietors continually complain of the construction and management, while he successfully resists their directions to raise the dam and make repairs, until the fact gradually develops that there is a better head on Gates than at his mill, and more revolving power in his mind than in his wheel.

Two formal meetings of the proprietors are held this year at the "Turks Head Tavern in Dorchester," and Henry Woodman, James Bishop, Joseph Bent and Joseph Herbert make their first appearance as proprietors in place of Matthias Evans, John Andrews, Joseph Weeks and Thomas Lyon, Jr. At the first meeting, August 25, it was voted "to lay out in a second Division, Sixty three Lots in the up land, each lot containing eighty Acres at the least and in case so many Lotts cant be laid out in the very best of said land, that it be in the Power of the Committee to add to every eighty Acre lot so much as to make them equal to the very best Lot, not exceeding Forty Acres to any one Lot."

Andrew Wilder was chosen to lay out the lots and a committee of ten was chosen to conduct the business. At the

second meeting, December 14, the survey of the second division lots was approved, and a lot was assigned to each owner of a right. The tenth lot was reserved for the first settled minister, the eleventh for the ministry and the sixty-third for schools.

The price of labor on the highways was rated at seven shillings per day, and Henry Woodman was added to the committee on highways who were instructed that "but one of said Committee work on that Business at won and the same time." During the year the roads receive the benefit of twenty-three days' labor at a cost of £9–2–0. The charges for laying out the second division lots were £224–9–6, the clerk and treasurer receives £5–7–0, for his services to the close of the year and a few small charges are allowed. To meet these demands an assessment of £258 or £4–6–0 on each right is made. Only one proceeding of interest during this year remains unnoticed:

Voted That M^r^ Joseph Harbort have five acres of Land and the Stream by it for to Set a fulling Mill he mataining said mill ten years for the Sarves of the Proprietors, the said Proprietors paying him for what work they have don at said Mill. And the Committee that was appointed to a gree with a man for to Bulding a Saw Mill he the Committee to give a Deed and take Bond of said Harbort He Paying the Committee for their troble.

This solitary mention of a fulling-mill is all that is heard of it for many years. The committee, to whom the project was referred, found ample employment in the management of Mr. Gates and his saw-mill. This addition to their perplexity was an act of great unkindness on the part of the proprietors. It is reasonably certain that the grant of land was never consummated, perhaps, admonished by the perilous adventure of Don Quixote and the fulling-mills, the subject is not revived.

1738. Samuel Hayward has become a proprietor representing the right formerly of Robert Redman, and Hezekiah Gates also appears at the meetings of the board, but whose right he has purchased is not certain. Other changes in the membership of the proprietors occur from time to time, but the general management of affairs continues to be referred to those whose names have become familiar. Only one meeting is held this year, which is convened August 22, "at the house of Jonathan Dwight of Boston, Innholder." Timothy Green is elected clerk and treasurer in the place of Benjamin Bird. The saw-mill has been built but the contention concerning its efficiency and management has not as yet sufficiently developed to prevent the proprietors from considering a request from its owner, in a generous and good-natured manner:

Voted That Mr. Hezekiah Gates of Lancaster have liberty to lay out Thirty Acres of Land adjoining to the land he has already laid out at the Mill between the Pond and the lower end of his Land already laid out in part of his Ninety Acres.

Voted that Mr Hezekiah Gates have liberty to build his House on his Land near the Mill and clear as much Land there as any one Proprietor is obliged to do by his Grant.

Also at this meeting Captain Oliver Wilder and Mr. Gates are chosen "to clear a good cart way from the saw mill to the place where the meeting house is to stand as strait as the land will allow of." For this purpose an appropriation not exceeding eight pounds is made. The sentiment of the proprietors was taken in regard to building a meeting-house and "it passed in the negative."

1739. A note of preparation for some weighty undertaking is heard in the early call for a meeting of the proprietors. Earlier by several months than in former years are assembled the controlling spirits of the township. This

memorable meeting was held in Boston April 11, at the house of Mr. Dwight. Notices had been published in the Boston papers and posted at Dorchester and probably at Milton and Stoughton, announcing to the proprietors that they will be invited at this meeting "to consider what is proper to be done about building a meeting house for the worship of God." Of the time for building a meeting-house stipulated in the charter two full years yet remained, and in consideration of the small progress made in the settlement, and that so far the plantation had been a continual source of expense to the proprietors, an excuse for delay is easily found. The record, however, presents no shadow of hesitation but rather the cheerful voice of a united purpose.

Voted That a Meeting House for the Publick Worship of God be Built as soon as conveniently may be, on the Meeting House place in the said Township to be Forty Five Feet Long, Thirty Five Feet wide, the Corner post to be Twenty one Feet high.

Voted That Thomas Tilestone & Edward Hartwell Esq^{rs} Major Oliver Wilder, Mr. Andrew Wilder and Mr. Hezekiah Barber be the Committee for Building said Meeting House.

Voted That a Tax of Three Hundred Pounds be laid, on the Proprietors, to pay Charges past and towards Building said Meeting House.

An omission to give this record in full would be an act of injustice. The will of the meeting expressed in other terms would conceal, in a great measure, the resolute purpose and firm determination of the act. On the strength of this action alone the meeting-house was built. No postponement, no amendment nor qualification of this action was ever tolerated. In marked contrast with the early history of other towns in this vicinity the first meeting-house was located with rare unanimity and built without contention. The picture of the

"faire Prospeck" was not marred with an exhibition of the passions of contending men. Under the direction of the committee, the meeting-house was built by Benjamin Ballard, who received in six payments £251–17–0. In his Half Century Sermon, 1818, Rev. Dr. Cushing says: "In 1739, the proprietors erected a meeting house 50 by 40. It was the first frame that was set up in the town and it has been considered, and was at the time, as an extraordinary enterprise that it was raised by only sixteen men." This reference to the year in which it was built is of interest, since the records do not make it appear whether it was built in 1739 or the year following. November 19, 1740, it was voted to pay Mr. Ballard one hundred and fifty pounds in part for building the meeting-house, and at the same time the committee was requested to make a report. While the records admit the conjecture that it might have been built in 1740, there is found no cause to qualify the assertion of Mr. Cushing that it was erected in 1739. In regard to the size of the edifice, it is fair to presume, that referring to it twenty-seven years after it was removed, it would have been easier for Mr. Cushing to overlook the exact dimensions than for the committee to exceed their instructions so far as to erect a meeting-house longer and wider by five feet than directed by the vote of their associates. On one point all the authorities are in harmony. At this time the roof and sides were covered with boards and open spaces were left for windows and doors. It was several years before the roof was improved and doors and windows procured.

Two other meetings were held at Boston this year, at which considerable business was transacted. It was proposed to clear a road leading from Lunenburg to Winchester, New Hampshire, but the ambition of the proprietors was satisfied in the choice of a committee to view and estimate

the expense of a road from the common to the west line of the township. A gratuity of four pounds each was voted to the first fifteen settlers who, previous to May, 1740, should build a house and comply with the other conditions of the grant; and a grant of sixty acres of land was made to "Thomas Gamble who lately met with some loss by fire in said township." An account of this fire, probably the first in the settlement, would be of interest, but no additional information has been found. At a former meeting there had been a decree to prosecute all persons who cut any white pine trees on the undivided lands, and now a committee is chosen to number and mark all the white pine trees fit for clapboards and shingles on the ten-acre common that they may be reserved for future use.

1740. The chronicles now declare the war of 1740. The growing discontent over the continued mismanagement of the saw-mill culminated in acts of open hostility at a meeting, assembled at the inn of Jonathan Dwight, on the tenth of April. The declaration of war is inscribed in a bold, firm hand upon the records:

Voted that Edward Hartwell Esq. of Lunenburg, Col. Oliver Wilder and Joseph Wheelock of Lancaster be a committee to put in suit and pursue to final judgment and execution the bond of Mr. Hezekiah Gates of Lancaster.

Forgetting that their treasury was empty and that Mr. Ballard was waiting for his pay for building the meeting-house, the proprietors do not fail to vote the sinews of war:

Voted that the committee, chosen to put in suit and pursue to final judgment and execution the bond of Hezekiah Gates, have liberty to draw upon the proprietor's treasurer what money may be thought proper and necessary to carry on the suit.

Mr. Gates was sued; probably Daniel Gookin, the first sheriff in Worcester county, served the writ. The discontent of the proprietors had become chronic and relief could not be found in treatment less heroic. It was a valorous attack, but the enemy was not wholly routed, as appears in a call for a meeting to be assembled at the inn of Captain Josiah Shelden in Boston, November 19, "to hear what Mr. Hezekiah Gates hath to offer for an agreement concerning the saw mill and damn." The records of Timothy Green are spelled with great accuracy. He fails now in the orthography of one word. Probably he did not use that word often, but we are sorry to find him using it in this form when he is talking about Gates and the saw-mill. Mr. Hartwell is allowed and some time later was paid £33–3–0 "for sueing Hezekiah Gates; for charges attending Court at Worcester May 1740 and for officers fees and witness fees and for laying out ten acres of pine land and laying out Hezekiah Gates' land." In 1743, after many votes and references to the affair, the proprietors, in a more conciliatory spirit, propose to adjust the difficulty on receipt of £40 or £10 new tenor. The proposition was accepted and payment made by Mr. Gates soon after. Complaint however was renewed in a future year, 1744, in a call for a meeting "to see what the proprietors will do concerning Hezekiah Gates; the saw mill being out of repair and no boards." When the meeting was convened nothing was done about it for the saw-mill and all minor troubles were forgotten in the sorrows and discouragements of the French and Indian War.

1741. Several of the proprietors of Dorchester Canada, compared with the standard of their time, were men of wealth. It is apparent that others were less fortunate. A considerable portion of the taxes which had been assessed from time to time on the rights in the township remained

unpaid, and many demands against the propriety were unadjusted. The embarrassment occasioned by this state of affairs finds frequent expression in the records. Early this year it was voted to sell at auction the land of the delinquent owners, but before the day appointed for the sale arrived, the majority took a more conciliatory course in referring the subject to a committee. It is probable that no sale of land for the payment of taxes was made until 1754.

In the annals of this year should be recorded an important event over which the proprietors had no control. The boundary line, having been adjusted previously by the contending provinces, was run by Richard Hazen in February of this year. A belt of land along the northern boundary of Dorchester Canada, containing nearly one thousand acres, was ruthlessly given to New Hampshire. Overcome by a grief which refused utterance, or sustained by a stoic resignation which commanded silence, the proprietors make no reference to this event for many years.

1742. The annals of this year are somewhat brief and uneventful, and the careless reader might fail to discover the feature of greatest interest. Here is found the first trace of faction among the proprietors. In a call for a meeting to be held at the meeting-house in Dorchester Canada, the first attempt to hold a meeting outside of Dorchester or Boston, appear the names of Caleb Wilder, Joseph Wheelock, Hezekiah Gates, Benjamin Harris, Gardner Wilder, Edward Phelps and Nathaniel Carter. These were the petitioners who caused the meeting to be called and designated the place. Former meetings had generally been called by Thomas Tilestone, Jonathan Dwight, Hezekiah Barber, Samuel Kneeland and others living in Boston or immediate vicinity. The record of the proceedings of the meeting convened in Dorchester Canada is brief: "A number of the

proprietors met at the meeting house in Dorchester Canada and there was objection arose about the calling the meeting and so nothing was done."

Evidently, without consulting the Tilestone party, the same gentleman joined by a few others get a meeting called soon after to be convened at Leominster. Again "there was objection arose" on account of the absence of the clerk "and so nothing was done." It becomes apparent that in the fictitious play of Mohammed and the mountain, the Boston party preferred to be the mountain. A meeting was then called to assemble early the following year at the inn of Mr. Jonathan Dwight in Boston where matters of grave import were considered.

1743. At a meeting convened March 31 at the house of Jonathan Dwight, an entertaining proposition was considered and decided as follows:

Voted That the proprietors give encouragement to one person that will settle a Family and Keep a public House with Suitable Entertainment.

Voted That the sum of £100. O. T. be paid to one person that shall build a good and sufficient House — three Rooms on a floor with Chimneys in each Room of it for a House of Entertainment and Barn and provision suitable for to entertain men and Horses.

In order that the bounty proposed might be paid to any person complying with the conditions a tax was assessed at this time, but the money was not promptly collected. Timothy Mossman of Sudbury built a house of entertainment this year, and received eighty pounds of the one hundred pounds which was attempted to be raised. The record will establish this point beyond dispute. Under an article "To do what shall be thought necessary in order that Mr. Timothy

Mossman may have the money paid him which is justly due and owing to him from said proprietors" it was ordered "That the sum of eighty pounds old tenor be allowed and paid to Mr. Timothy Mossman for his service in building a house of entertainment and if there should be peace with France within twelve months that the aforesaid Mossman to have the sum of forty pounds old tenor."

In recognition of faithful service, the sum of twelve shillings per day for seven and one-half days was voted to Edward Hartwell, Joseph Wheelock and Andrew Wilder, a committee "to view out and mark out a road from the meeting house to the west line and that fifty shillings be allowed to each of them for their extraordinary hardship."

1744. At the threshold of a new year stand the waiting heralds of impending war; their messages, borne on the wings of alarm along the unprotected frontier, are answered in hasty preparations for defence. The settlers from the unprotected borders through fear of attack from the Indians are hastening to the older and fortified towns. The proprietors of Dorchester Canada, perceiving that the existence of the settlement was involved, adopted early measures to create a feeling of security. First, they place themselves squarely on the record: "Voted that the proprietors will fortify," and at the same meeting one hundred and sixty pounds was voted to Asher Cutler if he would "build a fortification around his house and receive the soldiers that is ordered for that place and have the province pay for billeting and keep a tavern with good stabling hay &c to the acceptance of the proprietors." Mr. Andrew Wilder was chosen "to view the fortification Mr. Cutler is to build in said township." It is reasonably certain that this contract was annulled. In August following an agreement is made with Jonathan Dwight and Ephraim Wheeler "to build a block

house in said Dorchester Canada and keep a good and sufficient house of entertainment fit both for man & horse and to entertain all soldiers that have or may be ordered to said township & to receive the province pay for their billeting." The consideration for this undertaking was two hundred pounds which was paid them the following year, but no record of any payment to Mr. Cutler is found.

Only two months preceding this agreement with Dwight and Wheeler, Timothy Mossman was chosen "to take care of the meeting house by nailing boards against the windows and doors and prevent the burning of brush near it." It is probable that between these dates Mr. Mossman had left the house of entertainment built the year preceding. Certainly in the following year he was residing in Sudbury. It appears, also, that Asher Cutler was the owner of the Mossman inn when he made the agreement with the proprietors to fortify his house in Dorchester Canada.

In confirmation of this statement there is the record of a deed dated August 10, 1744, of Timothy Mossman of Dorchester Canada conveying the fourteenth and fifteenth first division lots to Asher Cutler of Sudbury. These lots are west of the highway and between the house of Seth P. Fairbanks and the old common. There is also a distinct tradition that this ancient inn was fortified and stood near the site of the Powder House.

At the time Dwight and Wheeler built the block-house Mr. Wheeler was the owner of one-half of the Bluefield or Bellows grant, and it is not improbable that the house built on this grant in 1734 was a part of the block-house built in the autumn of 1744 or the following spring. Enos Jones, who settled on the Bluefield grant about 1762, was accustomed to say that there was a block-house and an inn situated a short distance south from the house occupied by the late Deacon Daniel Jones.

1745-1749. If any meeting of the proprietors was convened, during these five years, no record of it has been preserved. It would be a source of satisfaction to make it appear, upon proof, that during these years of gloom and discouragement to all the frontier settlements our little colony had maintained a continuous habitation in Dorchester Canada. But a knowledge of the fortunes of other settlements similarly situated, the absence of any sustaining evidence and the voices of tradition combine to destroy any such picture and to lead to the conclusion that during a considerable portion of the time the settlement was entirely deserted. If it is true that the fires are suffered to burn low on these primitive hearths, they are not wholly extinguished. In a little while the pioneers return in augmented force and the infant colony grows apace. It was the rest and inactivity of sleep, but not the eternal silence of death; and the little clearings in the forest, the meeting-house and the mill will await them on their return.

Previous to this date, in addition to grants of land to the saw-mill and for other purposes, the proprietors had expended above one thousand five hundred pounds, old tenor, in forwarding the settlement. Substantial progress had been made. Primitive roads had been constructed from Lunenburg to the meeting-house and from thence to the Winchendon line. There was a road of more pretension from the saw-mill to the meeting-house, and the Northfield road extended through the township. A saw-mill and later a meeting-house had been built and the fruit of civilization had been enjoyed in a lawsuit of very fair proportions. Through several clearings in the forest the summer sun warms the earth and paints in livery of green the tender blade. A few houses have been built in the centre of the clearings. The house on Bluefield farm is

established by the records. The owner of the saw-mill was permitted to build his house near by. The house of Mr. Mossman, and the fortified house of Dwight and Wheeler, were completed to the acceptance of the proprietors. But the number and location of the earliest dwellings have escaped record and have faded from the traditions of men.

The original grant of several towns in this vicinity was at very nearly the same time. At the outset it was an even race. The proprietors of Dorchester Canada, manifesting a livelier interest in their plantation by more frequent meetings and more comprehensive action, secured better results and made more progress in a preparation for the future than was made by their rivals. It is probably true that if the building of the meeting-house had been delayed a very short time, it would not have been built until the return of peace after the French and Indian War. Admitting the conjecture, the fact remains — one was built, and it was more than twenty years before a similar edifice was reared in Rindge or in Winchendon.

The fear of attack from the Indians which led to the desertion of the settlement was not without good and sufficient reason. Any other course would have been rash and venturesome. A view of the surroundings as they were in 1745 leads directly to this conclusion. Townsend, including the greater part of Ashby, and Lunenburg were incorporated towns containing several block-houses on which the inhabitants relied for protection. The settlement in Westminster had made substantial progress, containing about twenty families. In that town was a line of ten block-houses or fortified dwellings which, joining with the fortifications in Lunenburg and Townsend, made a continuous line of defences on the south and east, with Ashburnham on the outside doing picket duty for the older and fortified towns.

There was no protection from the north and west. In this direction, between the lines of settlement along the margins of the Connecticut and Merrimack rivers, was an expanse of unbroken wilderness through which an insidious foe could approach unchallenged. The only settlements on the danger side of Ashburnham were at New Ipswich, Peterborough, Rindge and Winchendon. All these were deserted. It would have been foolhardy for any of them or all of them in alliance to have attempted to maintain an existence during these years of danger. History commends the wisdom of the course pursued by these unprotected and feeble settlements. It is a well-established fact that the Indians were discovered many times lurking along the line of the garrisons and ready to attack any unguarded point. They were held at bay only by the active measures taken for defence. They even entered Westminster and Lunenburg and in a part of Lunenburg now in Ashby, they burned one of the fortified houses, killing two of the three soldiers who had been stationed there and carried into captivity an entire family, consisting of John Fitch, his wife and five children.

The Indians made their retreat and doubtless came through Ashburnham. Electing between retreat and massacre, these settlements were abandoned. Even within the fortified line there were expressions of fear and repeated calls for assistance. July 8, 1748, three days after the capture of John Fitch, fifty-eight citizens of Lunenburg and Leominster join in a petition for more soldiers "for the protection of their lives," giving as a reason for their request "that we are soried to look upon ourselves in a very hazardous as well as distressed case to such a degree that we cannot many of us labor on our farms or abide in our houses with tolerable safety." Four days later the commissioned officers and the selectmen of Lunenburg renew the request

for help declaring that for the past week "almost daily the enemy are heard shooting in the woods above us." In the accumulated evidence of these and other documents which care has preserved and research brought to light is found the danger which led to the abandonment of our little settlement and which raised alarm in the older and stronger towns.

During this period of suspension in the affairs of Dorchester Canada, material changes occurred in the membership of the propriety. Thomas Tilestone died October 21, 1745. No other name has become so familiar. He was the leading petitioner for the grant and was appointed by the General Court on the committee to admit the grantees and also to conduct their organization. Subsequently he was elected moderator of every meeting of the proprietors, was named on the most important committees and until his death, at the age of seventy years, he was the leading spirit among his associates. He was a son of Timothy Tilestone and was born in Dorchester October 19, 1675. Through a long and useful life he was called to many positions of trust, both in civil and military affairs. His name is honorably connected with the annals of his time. In the concerns of Dorchester Canada, he was succeeded by his son Elisha Tilestone, who from inclination or otherwise made no attempt to exercise an equal influence in the management of its affairs.

Joseph Wilder of Lancaster was a member of the Council in 1735 and was one of the committee to admit the grantees. At first he was prominent in the councils of the proprietors, but occupied with affairs of greater moment his name now fades almost entirely from these annals. He was Judge of Probate many years and one of the Justices of the County Court from the organization of the county in 1731 until his death in 1757. It was his son Joseph who was one of the

surveyors of the first division lots in 1736. Another son Caleb and a cousin Oliver continue active members of the propriety for many years, and among the residents who appear at a later period the name of Wilder will receive honorable mention.

Edward Hartwell was one of the first settlers of Lunenburg where he continued to reside until his death February 17, 1785, aged ninety-six years. He continues a proprietor of Dorchester Canada, but after this date he gives very little time or attention to its affairs. His sound judgment and vigorous intellect made him a leader among men. He was a major in the militia and was frequently in service in the protection of the frontier. For many years he was a member of the Legislature and served in that capacity after he was eighty years of age. He was also one of the Justices of the County Court from 1762 to 1774. In the midst of these accumulating honors and with weighty responsibilities resting upon him, he is found clearing the roads in the new township seven and one-half days and is rewarded with a gratuity of fifty shillings on account of his extraordinary hardship.

On the muster-roll of Captain Withington's company which served in the expedition to Canada in 1690 appears the name of Samuel Hicks. The son Samuel, Jr., being dead a right in the township of Dorchester Canada was awarded to Timothy Mossman of Sudbury who married Sarah Hicks a daughter of Samuel, Senior. Mr. Mossman was the only one of the sixty original proprietors who settled in the township. Driven away by fear of the Indians and being advanced in years, he did not return when the settlement was renewed but the name will ever be associated with the earliest annals of the place. While he resided here, as stated elsewhere, he owned and occupied a house and lands

a short distance south of the common. From a petition found in the forty-sixth volume of State archives it appears that Mr. Mossman had a lease of other land and that potash was manufactured there at a very early date.

The petition of Timothy Mossman which humbly craves leave to show that your petitioner lived in Dorchester Canada and was drove off by the Indians from that town, and thereby I lossed my House Moveables and Improvements and being impoverished sold my land there. I was put in possession of the pottash farm by virtue of a Lease from Capt Plaisteed, where I did much labour in fencing improveing and makeing roads to the value of Two Hundred pounds where a so I met with Great sickness in my person & familly and was further reduced by the loss of the possession of the province land as it became profitable.

Therefore I pray your Excellency and Honours from your own goodness and Humanity to Compassionate my distress'd Circumstances and forgive me the debt I owe to the Province and give me a small Tract or Tracts of Province Land that may be found to Lye betwixt Westminster and Leominster that is useless to the Govern^{t} or the Sum of Two Hundred Pounds or Equivolence in land, and as in duty bound shall ever pray.

TIMOTHY MOSSMAN.

In answer to this petition of Mr. Mossman, the General Court ordered June 12, 1764, "that the sum of twelve pounds, being a debt due from the petitioner to the province, be remitted to him in full answer to his petition."

The second allegation in the petition concerning the potash works under the lease of Captain Plaisted relates to events which occurred after his removal from this town. To Thomas Plaisted had been granted fifteen hundred acres of land, now a part of Princeton, and while Mr. Mossman was occupying this grant in 1760 the title was forfeited on account of non-fulfilment of the conditions. It is this misfortune that is recited in the petition. Timothy Mossman was born in Wrentham, 1679, and died in Sudbury, 1773. He did not reside in this town subsequent to 1744.

CHAPTER III.

A RECORD OF SETTLEMENTS.

RENEWED ACTIVITY OF THE PROPRIETORS. — MOSES FOSTER. — THE SECOND SAW-MILL. — GRAIN-MILL. — SETTLEMENTS. — DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN RESIDENT AND NON-RESIDENT PROPRIETORS. — NAMES OF EARLY SETTLERS. — THE GERMAN SETTLEMENT. — THE PROVINCE LINE. — MANUFACTURE OF POTASH. — DISTRIBUTION OF UNDIVIDED LANDS. — FAREWELL TO THE PROPRIETORS. — PERSONAL NOTICES.

THE CONGRESS of nations convened at Aix la Chapelle, in 1748, effected a suspension of hostilities between England and France, but during the summer of the following year, detached bodies of Indians, sometimes accompanied by a few French soldiers, continued to menace the exposed line of settlements. Not until 1750, did a feeling of security invite a return of the settlers to the frontiers, nor at this time in any considerable number. One by one the hardy pioneers break an opening in the wilderness or enlarge a clearing already begun. The rude cabins are separated by wide wastes of unbroken forest. The cheering presence of a new arrival, or the return of a former companion is only hailed at long intervals of time. It was several years before there were many settlers in the township. The renewal of the war in 1754, and the news of sudden incursions by the Indians into Salisbury, Charlestown, Walpole, Keene, Hinsdale and other towns in New Hampshire, continued to cast clouds of discouragement over a second attempt to possess the township. While this state of affairs from 1750 to

1760 greatly retarded, it did not prevent material progress in the settlement of Dorchester Canada.

Early in the year, 1750, the proprietors, aroused by the bustle of preparation heard on every hand, are convened at the inn of their old associate, Jonathan Dwight. For five years they have beheld their possessions in Dorchester Canada, through the dim vision of gloomy fear and fading hope, but now assembling with cheerful countenances, they forget the misgivings of the past as they read on every hand the accumulating promises of amended fortunes. They cannot fail to note the vacant chair of Timothy Tilestone. Joseph Wilder, engrossed by affairs of greater moment, has withdrawn from any participation in their affairs, and Edward Hartwell, after this date, is seldom present. In their room come Elisha Tilestone, Richard and Caleb Dana, Henry Coolidge, Eleazer Williams and John Moffatt, while the Sumners, Colonel Oliver and Captain Caleb Wilder, Jonathan Dwight, Hezekiah Barber, Joseph Wheelock, Nathan Heywood and others, whose names are familiar, will continue active members of the board. And last, but not least, from year to year there will be added to their councils new members, residents of the settlement, increasing in numbers and influence until they gain control of the corporation. These, in whom we have much the greater interest, will be introduced with honorable mention as they make their appearance at the meetings of the board.

The date of the first meeting after the long interval, was February 20, 1749–50. It was proposed to procure windows and finish the meeting-house, and the expediency of calling a minister was suggested for the first time, but nothing was decided in regard to a minister or the meeting-house. A committee was named to report at the next meeting concerning the probable expense and the location of a grist-mill, and

then, with their accustomed alacrity, they admonished Mr. Gates instructing him in specific terms, to keep the saw-mill in good repair and to "raise the dam one foot and a half higher than it used to be or ever has been." After some attention to the roads, which doubtless needed mending, the proprietors directed attention to one subject of no little interest. Present at this meeting, and mingling with them, was Moses Foster, then almost sixty years of age. For several years he had resided a portion of the time, at least, in Dorchester Canada. He brought them tidings from the wilderness, and gave them an account of what had happened there. By him they were assured the meeting-house had been unharmed and he gave them the names of those who had been to the wilderness or were proposing to settle there. Mr. Foster had purchased one first and one second division lot lying adjacent in the northeast part of the town, now in Ashby. The title to one of the lots was in dispute and the proprietors at this meeting made him a grant of fifty acres. Not content with this measure of kindness to their aged guest, the proprietors vote him five pounds "for being one of the first settlers." There is no record of the payment of this gratuity, but a few years later a tract of about fifty acres was granted to "Mr. Moses Foster one of the first settlers" on condition he "shall come personally and settle and inhabit there and continue there for several years provided his life be spared him." This grant was located adjacent to and east of the common, and for many years was known as the Deacon Foster grant. It is now owned and occupied by Benjamin Cushing. Permission was also given Mr. Foster to throw up his house lot No. 51, and lay out another which he did, selecting a tract extending north from the land granted to him, but not extending so far westward.

At this time occurred a radical change in New England in the terms employed expressing money. In 1736, the paper money, styled old tenor, compared with silver was worth about one-third of its nominal value. It gradually depreciated, until in 1750 the bills issued by Massachusetts were rated at about fourteen per cent. In 1749, England sent to the New England colonies in compensation for the cost of the recent war a large amount of specie. The proportion of Massachusetts, amounting to $612,330.41, was employed in redeeming the issue of paper money at current rates. After this date when a sum of money is stated, a pound will represent an equivalent to $3.33⅓ in silver. Referring to payments of money previously made, the vote in 1737 to give the laborers upon the roads, seven shillings per day was equivalent to thirty-one cents, and the cost of building the meeting-house was about two hundred and twenty-five dollars. The gratuity tendered Mr. Foster on account of his early settlement, was equivalent to two dollars and twenty-five cents. In 1751, measures were adopted which led to the building of a new saw-mill. In order to accomplish this desired result, the proprietors first declare their independence of Mr. Gates and his mill, and then, in the light of a discovery, come to the conclusion that the former grant of land to him is revoked and can be given by them to any other person or persons who will undertake to build another and a better mill. With the summary retirement of Mr. Gates, the old mill falls into decay, and the temper of the proprietors is reflected with more serenity in the pages of the records. Let it not be presumed that this continued trouble over the saw-mill has been unduly colored in these annals. Only a few of the many complaints of the proprietors have been mentioned, and always with a conscientious effort to temper their acerbity.

The final vote was passed, November 5, 1751.

Voted that the proprietors do hereby grant to Caleb Dana, Timothy Green and Jonathan Dwight and their heirs, the stream of water whereon the old saw-mill was built by Hezekiah Gates, and the ninety acres of land, sixty acres of which are laid out near or adjoining to said stream, which was supposed to be granted to the said Gates. They viz: Caleb Dana, Timothy Green and Jonathan Dwight build a saw-mill and keep the same in good repair three years after said mill and a good dam is well finished at or before the 20th day of May next or sooner.

At the same meeting a bounty of forty-eight pounds was offered to any one who would build a grist-mill on the same stream "as near the saw mill as conveniently can be." There were stipulations that, at the saw-mill, work should be done at a stated price and that the grist-mill should be kept in good repair and with good attendance for the term of fifteen years. It was proposed in April, 1752, to make a further grant to encourage the building of the grist-mill and the subject was referred to the next meeting with the encouraging remark "by which time the grist-mill will be finished." Stimulated by these proceedings a new saw-mill and a grist-mill were soon built. Caleb Dana of Cambridge, the owner of many lots of land but never a resident in this township, and Elisha Coolidge, also of Cambridge, who settled at this time in Lane Village, bought of Jonathan Dwight fifty acres of land situated southeast and adjoining the old saw-mill grant. On their new purchase they built a saw-mill and a grist-mill in the year 1752. These mills were near each other and possibly under one roof, and were located nearer the Upper Naukeag than was the old saw-mill. In January, 1753, Dana and Coolidge sold the two mills and the Dwight land to Nathan Dennis of Dudley.

Mr. Dennis removed at once and took possession of the mills and for a number of years Mr. Coolidge remained here. Dana and Coolidge for many years retained possession of the saw-mill grant. For some reason the grant was not confirmed to them by the proprietors until 1760, nor was the gratuity of forty-eight pounds to encourage the building of the grist-mill promptly paid. This delay led to the second lawsuit which attended the fortunes of the settlement. In this instance the proprietors were the defendants and in 1756 paid the successful litigants on an execution the sum of £77–15–2, and about the same time Mr. Dennis, the proprietor of the mills, secured an execution for the sum of £14–15–3. The proprietors, having secured the building of a better saw-mill and a grist-mill for the accommodation of the settlement and satiated with vexatious experiences and the lawsuits attending every enterprise in this direction, now leave their management and the building of other mills to the enterprise of business men. The continued history of mills and manufactures will be found in another chapter.

In regard to the location of the first mills in this town there is little doubt. The mill which was built by Mr. Gates in 1737 was on the saw-mill grant, located on the stream between the Upper and Lower Naukeag lakes. Between the grant and the Upper Naukeag was a lot of fifty acres on which the two mills were built by Dana and Coolidge in 1752. The bounds of these tracts of land are definitely defined and the location of the mills approximately shown by deeds recorded in the Worcester Registry. The first mill was near the lower mill of Packard Brothers, formerly of Elias Lane, and not many years since traces of the old log dam could be seen about twenty yards south of the present dam. The other mills were about sixty yards east

of the mill in Lane Village, now of Packard Brothers, formerly of C. & G. C. Winchester. Traces of the dam, in the present mill-pond, still remain.

Referring the action of the proprietors in regard to roads and to ecclesiastical affairs to chapters devoted to those subjects, there are found remaining many items of interest and information which relate to the progress of the settlement. In the proceedings of a meeting convened in March, 1751, and between the record of two other votes on disconnected subjects is found the following assertion: "Voted that thirty men or upwards residing in the township." This is startling information. Turning to the warrant for an article introducing this vote there is found, "To agree upon a speedy and full compliance with the conditions of the General Courts Grant." The conditions of the charter requiring the settlement of a certain number of families within a limited time had been unfulfilled several years. On account of the troublous times which had retarded the progress of all the younger settlements, the General Court, by tacit consent and sometimes by enactment, had extended in an indefinite manner the time stipulated for the fulfilment of the conditions of the grants. Yet the policy of reminding the settlements of their delinquency was being pursued. The solemn declaration of the proprietors that there were thirty men residing in the township at this time should be qualified. It was not recorded for their own information but was rather addressed to the General Court. If the vote had a desired effect in the quarter to which it was directed, it did not increase the number of settlers. The population of their plantation could not be inflated at will by resolving that the men were there. Only a few families were residing in the township when this startling vote was passed, and any mention of thirty men, if correct, must have included any who were

repairing roads for the proprietors or clearing lots preparatory to a removal of their families; but their existing legal residence and the home of their families were not as yet in Dorchester Canada.

About the time the town was incorporated, and perhaps an incident of that event, there are found renewed evidences of discord between the resident and non-resident proprietors. For several years the meetings of the propriety had been held in Dorchester Canada and in them all there had been opportunity for differences of opinion in the policy which should be pursued in the general management of affairs. The non-resident proprietors in forwarding the settlement were increasing the value of their lands, while the resident proprietors, having a twofold interest in appropriations for roads and other public concerns, would favor larger appropriations and the pursuit of a more liberal policy in the general management of the corporation. By conciliation and sometimes by the postponement of contested measures an open issue was avoided, leaving the proprietors at greater liberty for a contest over the place of holding their meetings. The resident proprietors constantly increasing in number had now maintained the meetings in Dorchester Canada without much interruption for several years. There was no injustice in their claim that the minority and wealthier part of the propriety could come to the plantation to attend meetings with less sacrifice than would attend them in a journey to Boston. At a meeting convened in Dorchester Canada in April, 1765, an unusual amount of business was transacted, including a vote that nothing be done about holding future meetings in some other place. The defeated party on the pretence, real or imaginary, that "they were hindered from giving their attendance by reason of the extraordinary freshets at that time

which rendered travelling thither impracticable," immediately called another meeting. In the warrant for this meeting there was an article providing for the reconsideration of all that was done at the April meeting. They assembled at the meeting-house May 8. On account of a former vote a meeting could not be called elsewhere. In the organization of the meeting Seth Sumner, a non-resident proprietor, was chosen moderator in place of either Elisha Coolidge, Deacon Moses Foster or Samuel Fellows, who had frequently been selected at former meetings. Without a vote on any other question the meeting was adjourned to meet in Roxbury, and having met at that place was adjourned to meet in Boston.

The Boston party continued the meeting over a year, holding by adjournment eleven sessions. They elected Richard Dana clerk in place of Samuel Wilder of Ashburnham who was elected in 1763 to succeed Nathan Heywood of Lunenburg; they repealed all the measures adopted at the April meeting and voted that future meetings should be held in Boston until otherwise ordered. Not until 1771 was another meeting of the proprietors convened at Ashburnham, when Samuel Wilder was again elected clerk and was continued in office until the organization was practically extinct. Benjamin Church of Boston remained the treasurer until 1763 and was succeeded by Caleb Wilder of Lancaster and by Jonathan Samson of Ashburnham.

It is certain that both parties were united in a vote passed a short time before the troubles began. It was proposed, in 1761, to "grant Mr. Taylor any certain sum of money to enable him to build a grist mill in the northeasterly part of said township and it passed in the negative unanimously." On the question of mills and the general policy of having any further connection with them there was the fullest meas-

ure of sympathy and concord. At the previous meeting it was voted to "grant James Colman about one acre and one hundred rods lying between the house where he now dwells and the saw mill yard which belongs to Moses Foster Jr. and Zimri Heywood." The records also declare that such favor to Mr. Coleman was on account of "his good service in said township in promoting the settlement there." This land was in the northeast part of the town and is now in Ashby.

In 1761 the General Court so far recognized the settlement as to impose a province tax upon the lands and inhabitants of the township. The proprietors instructed a committee to apply to the Court for relief. The petition, containing imformation of interest, is preserved in the Court Records:

> A Petition of Joshua Henshaw Esqr. and others, proprietors of the plantation called Dorchester Canada, Setting forth: That in the year 1761 the General Court laid a Tax upon them of £44-7-1. and three yearly Taxes since. That the Lands in such a new Plantation do not yield the produce as in those that are more cultivated, and are subject to early and late frosts, insomuch that the Inhabitants have not been able to raise one half of their bread corn, but are obliged to travel to other places to purchase it. That they are, besides, subject to the ravages of wild beasts, whereby they lose more young Cattle, Sheep and Swine than the value of any Province Tax that could equitably be laid upon them and praying Relief.

The Early Settlers. — A complete register of the early settlers of this town cannot now be made. The records in the incidental employment of names present no accurate list and there is no account of an enumeration of persons or of families at any time during the infancy of the settlement. The information which establishes the residence in this town

of the persons hereafter named has been gleaned from many sources. In 1751, when the proprietors informed the General Court there were thirty men or more residing in the township, Timothy Mossman and Asher Cutler had removed to Sudbury, from whence they came, and did not subsequently return. Thomas Gamble, who was here in 1739, had disappeared and in some other settlement was recounting his loss by fire. The man employed by Benjamin Bellows and his associates on Bluefield grant, and to whom tradition assigns the name of Johnson, is not mentioned after the desertion of the settlement in 1744. Ephraim Wheeler of Lancaster who was the managing proprietor of the blockhouse was frequently here until 1760, but probably never resided in the township.

Moses Foster is found residing here in 1750, but the date of his arrival is not definitely known. About 1750 he removed from the northeast part of the township to land granted him near the old common where he was a licensed innholder in 1751 and in later years. His name will frequently occur in the continued record of the settlement.

James Coleman with a numerous family left Ipswich, Massachusetts, 1743, and the same year united with the church in Lunenburg. He is claimed as a resident of Lunenburg until 1760, but it is certain that he early settled on his land in the northeast part of the township, now in Ashby, and very near if not adjacent to the first clearing of Moses Foster. Possibly when apprehensive of danger he retired within the line of the fortifications and being found a member of the church in Lunenburg, it was erroneously presumed that he was a resident of that place. He was a prominent man in the settlement and was later a valued citizen of Ashby.

Elisha Coolidge came from Cambridge, 1752. He probably assisted in building the mills and for a time owned an

interest in them which he conveyed to Nathan Dennis, December 13, 1752. He was a licensed innholder 1759, 1760 and 1761. He was one of the original members of the church and will be frequently named in the following pages.

Nathan Dennis was from Dudley. He owned the mills and was an innholder 1753 and 1754. He returned to Dudley about 1756.

Jeremiah Foster removed from Harvard and settled on the Gamaliel Hadley farm in 1753. In 1757 he was chosen a committee to repair the roads and subsequently his name is frequently repeated in the records.

John Bates, Benjamin Spaulding and Zimri Heywood were residents of the northeast part previous to 1760. In 1767 they were included within the new town of Ashby.

Thomas Wheeler was here and an innholder in 1756. He was one of the original members of the church, moderator of the second town meeting, 1765, and probably moved away that year.

Moses Foster, Jr., was in Dorchester Canada in 1758 and perhaps came with his father several years earlier. His eldest child died here in 1760. The family removed to Shelburne in 1771. He lived in the northeast part of the town and in 1760 he and Zimri Heywood had a mill there.

Unity Brown was a resident here in 1759, but the date of his arrival is not known. The marriage of Unity Brown of Dorchester Canada and Rebecca Arnold of Shrewsbury August 16, 1759, is entered on the records of Shrewsbury and Lunenburg. He united with the church at its organization but his name is not anywhere found after 1762.

Enos Jones from Lunenburg settled on the Bluefield grant in 1761. He was then nineteen years of age and was not married until several years later. A part of the land owned by him has remained in the possession of his descendants until within the memory of many now living.

Samuel Fellows removed from Harvard, 1762. He settled in the centre of the town and built the first mill on Phillips' brook. It was located just north of the blacksmith shop and very near the site of the shop of Rockwood & Walker that was burned in 1883. With the father came Samuel Fellows, Jr. They removed ten years later to Shelburne.

Samuel Nichols from Harvard bought the mills at the outlet of Naukeag lake which had been owned by Dana, Coolidge and Dennis. In 1777 he removed to Walpole, New Hampshire.

William Whitcomb, also from Harvard, settled on land which was later known as the George Howard farm. For several years he was one of the most active and influential men in the place, but later his name is seldom found in the records. He died here at an advanced age.

Jonathan Samson, like many of the other settlers, was one of the proprietors and had owned a right in the township sometime previous to his settlement on the Merrick Whitney farm in 1762. It is possible he was here before the date given. The birth of his eldest child May 7, 1759, is recorded here, but there is no assertion that the child was born in Dorchester Canada.

Stephen Ames settled east of Rice pond, as early as 1762. He removed from town in 1777.

Tristram Cheney was from Sudbury. He was an active citizen. While he remained no one exercised a more controlling influence in the direction of public affairs. He settled where Horace W. Houston now lives, and in 1774 removed to Antrim, New Hampshire.

William Joyner was probably from Sudbury. He was here in 1763, town clerk 1766, 1767 and 1768, united with the church, 1769, but there is no record of his death or of his dismissal from the church. In 1770 he was not taxed and it is probable he removed late in 1769 or early in 1770.

Ebenezer Conant, from Concord, settled probably near and west of Rice pond. He was residing here in 1763. He was sixty-four years of age at that time. With him came his son, Ebenezer Conant, Jr.

John Martin, Ebenezer Hemenway, Abraham Smith, Deliverance Davis, who settled on the David Russell place, now owned by Mrs. Russell, George Dickerson, Jeremiah Bridge and a few others, arrived here so near the close of the annals of Dorchester Canada that they should be counted among the early arrivals in the new town of Ashburnham.

There is evidence that a few families were residing on the Rolfe, the Starr and the Converse grants at an early date, but there is found no mention of the names.

During the arrivals of the settlers who have been named, the Germans were making substantial progress in the settlement of Lexington grant. They were independent of the proprietors, and except in the sympathies of a new settlement, they were a community by themselves.

Y^e^ DUTCHMEN. — The German settlement in the eastern part of the town was a substantial contribution to the intelligence and population of the settlement. These emigrants were educated people, equal in character and ability to their contemporaries in the township. They were in full sympathy with the other settlers in religion, in hatred of tyranny and in zealous defence of their political rights. In the Revolution no portion manifested a livelier interest or contributed more in treasure, sacrifice or service. They had fled from tyranny in their native land and were quick to recognize and resist oppression in any form. The sturdy, frugal, industrious characteristics of the fathers have been renewed in their children. From the first they have been received into full fellowship and admitted on equal terms to all social and public privileges. By assimilation and inter-

marriage, they are no longer a distinct people, yet the impress of this element of the population of the town has been healthful and salutary. There remains an impulse not to mention the German settlers in a separate paragraph and in no manner distinguish them from other members of a cemented common community. The impulse would prevail save from a fear that the omission of particular reference would falsely be ascribed to an indifferent recognition of their character and worth. The events which influenced their settlement in this town are not concealed. They were in Lexington in 1757 and not destitute of money. Their imperfect knowledge of the English language and other reasons, at once apparent, urged them to settle in one community if sufficient land could be found at a convenient point. The town of Lexington offered to sell them one thousand acres of land in a continuous tract. They bought it and came here. If Lexington grant in 1735 had been located in any other place they would have gone there. The deed bears date of December, 1757, and is recorded in March, 1758. The original grantees were Henry Hole, Christian William Whiteman, Jacob Schoffe, Simon Rodamell, Peter Perry, John Rich and John Kiberling. All of these, except Peter Perry, whose name does not appear again, immediately settled on the Lexington grant. At the same time or the following year, Jacob Selham, Andrew Windrow, Henry Stack, widow Constantine and Jacob Barkardst settled near them. John Oberlock and Philip Vorback bought land and resided south of the old common and near the site of Cushing Academy. In 1774, Jacob Wilker removed from Boston to the farm still owned and occupied by his descendants. These were born in Germany, and Lexington grant, where most of them resided, soon became known as the Dutch farms.

John Kiblinger—the name is now written Kibling—first settled in Maine but soon removed to Boston. In 1758, with his wife and three children, he came to Dorchester Canada. He was prominent in public affairs until his death, April 4, 1777, aged about fifty-five years. This family first located north of the Wilker farm, but subsequently they exchanged farms with the Constantines and removed to the farm now of George A. Willard.

Constantine. — This family consisted of a widow and her children, the husband and father having died in Boston a short time previous to their removal to this town. She died April 25, 1782, aged nearly eighty years. Jacob Constantine, a son, married July 5, 1773, a daughter of Christian William Whiteman. He died from injuries received by being thrown from a bridge in Ashby, March 8, 1814, aged sixty-one years. As previously stated, this family finally settled on a farm still associated with the name and situated north of the farm of Joseph W. Wilker.

Christian William Whiteman, or Whitman, settled on the farm now of Warren E. Marble. He was an active, intelligent man. In this family there were six children, three of whom were born in this town. In 1796, the aged parents removed to Haverhill, New Hampshire, where one of their sons was then residing.

Jacob Schoffe resided near the Whitemans until 1777 when he removed to Haverhill, New Hampshire. While he remained, his name receives honorable mention in the records.

Henry Hole assumed the name of Hall. He was forty years of age at the time he settled on the Captain Lemuel Whitney farm now owned by Levi E. Flint of Ashby. He died in this town 1794, aged eighty-three years. His eldest son was born on the ocean.

Simon Rodamell had a farm near the home of Jacob Schoffe. In 1777 he presented letters of recommendation from a Lutheran church in Germany and was admitted to the church in this town. In later years the name has been changed to Rodimon. He died 1813, aged ninety-three years.

John Rich, one of the early German settlers, was an active citizen while he remained in the township. He was living in Ashburnham in 1774, but previous to 1778, he removed to Haverhill, New Hampshire.

Andrew Windrow. —To end a season of discontent concerning his German name, he found a glorious summer in the name of Winter. His farm was northeast from the centre of the town. He died November 22, 1792, aged seventy years. His widow died 1814. Andrew Winter, Jr., resided on a farm that was annexed to Ashby in 1792.

Jacob Selham resided on the borders of the German settlement. When Ashby was incorporated, he was included in that town. The name was changed to Sellenham. He died 1769, aged sixty years. His son, Henry Sellenham, is frequently mentioned in the records of Ashby.

Henry Stack, later known as Steele, is said to have been buried in this town. No record of his death has been discovered.

The Lexington grant was originally purchased by Henry Hall, Christian William Whiteman, Jacob Schoffe, Simon Rodamell, Peter Perry, John Rich and John Kiblinger. Peter Perry immediately sold his interest to his associates and the land was divided among them. James Locke of Townsend, later of Ashby, was employed to survey and divide the land into lots. About one hundred and fifty acres of meadow were reserved as common lands and the remainder was divided into fourteen lots of unequal areas.

In the distribution of land among the six remaining proprietors, to Henry Hall was assigned a lot in the northeast corner and a lot near the centre of the south line. Christian William Whiteman received a lot on the east line, south of the first lot of Mr. Hall, a lot near the centre of the north line, and a small lot near the centre of the west line. Jacob Schoffe took a lot near the centre of the east line and south of Mr. Whiteman's first lot, and a lot of irregular outline in the southwest corner. John Rich became the owner of a lot on the east line south of the first lot of Mr. Schoffe and a generous lot in the centre of the grant. To John Kiblinger was given a lot in the southeast and another in the northwest corners of the grant. To Simon Rodamell was awarded two lots near the centre of the grant, one north and one south of the lot of Mr. Rich and a small lot near the centre of the west line between lands of Mr. Whiteman and Mr. Schoffe.

THE PROVINCE LINE.—The boundaries of Dorchester Canada were established in January, 1736. Five years later the province line was run which severed a considerable tract of land from the township and gave it to New Hampshire. Allowing for a variation of the needle, the province line was run north 80° west, while the northern boundary of the township was located north 78° west. The difference between the town course across the township would lead to a divergence of about one hundred rods. The province line entered Dorchester Canada about ten rods south of the northeast corner and passing westward, cutting wider and wider, it severed one hundred and ten rods at the northwest corner. The detached area was two thousand three hundred and forty rods in length with an average width of sixty rods, amounting to eight hundred and seventy-seven acres. In the northeast corner of the township there had been laid out twelve second division lots which were clipped

by the province line. On the northern side of the township no other lots had been laid out. Through the remainder of its course the province line took tribute from the undivided lands. By subsequent grants, the proprietors make restitution to the owners of the mutilated lots, but their loss from the common land was never compensated. Twice they chose a committee to petition the General Court for remuneration, and as late as 1764, they voted to have the claim revived. It had been delayed too long. The era of grants was ended. In the prosecution of this claim the proprietors joined another which arose from the inadequate allowance for the ponds in the original survey of the township. The proprietors informed the General Court that the allowance of three hundred acres which was then made was an error at once apparent, as indeed it was. They submitted an estimate of the several ponds in the township made by Caleb Wilder and Nathan Heywood. This ancient reference to the ponds is of interest:

The Great pond in Dorchester Canada that the mill stands on [Upper Naukeag]	680	acres
In the Lower Manockeeg	330	"
the long pond by mount Hunger hill	270	"
In one of the great Watatock ponds	70	"
In the other " " "	30	"
In one of the little Watatock ponds	30	"
In the pond by the third Division School Lot	80	"
The pond in the Southwest corner of the township	100	"
That part of the Menomanack lying in Dorchester Canada	100	"
Taken off by the Province line from Dorchester Canada	877	"

In these statements it was claimed that the proprietors had lost one thousand three hundred and ninety acres on

account of the ponds and eight hundred and seventy-seven acres by the establishment of the province line.

The contributions of land to Ashby and to Gardner, when those towns were incorporated, will receive mention hereafter. The northeast corner of the original township before it suffered any dismemberment was about two miles east of the present bound. The southwest corner was at Gardner Centre. The northwest corner was within Monomonock lake, in Rindge. In the estimate of losses exhibited to the General Court there is an error of one hundred acres. That part of Monomonock lake which fell within the limits of the old survey is reckoned a part of eight hundred and seventy-seven acres cut off by the province line and is also included in the losses on account of the ponds.

The Manufacture of Potash. — One hundred years ago potash was made in all the new towns, and for obvious reason the business was continued until the supply of ashes became limited. A sketch of Ashburnham found in Whitney's History of Worcester County, 1793, contains the assertion, "here are potash works and have been from its infancy; and the first complete ton of this article carried into market was from Ashburnham." It is probable that this sketch was contributed by Rev. Dr. Cushing. The authorship is reflected both in the substance and in the manner of expression, and many of the details are repeated in nearly the same words in his Half Century Sermon, twenty-five years later. Dr. Cushing never wrote carelessly and the statement can be accepted without qualification. The earliest reference to this manufacture appears in a vote of the proprietors, 1753, offering to Benjamin Frobisher one right of land in the township, whenever he commenced the manufacture there and gave four shillings, old tenor, for each bushel of ashes delivered at his place of business. The

price named was equivalent to nine cents in silver. At a later meeting, a committee was instructed to purchase a right of land for this purpose at an approaching sale of land for the payment of taxes. Subsequently, it was proposed that the proprietors agree to deliver 3000 bushels each year at 6½ pence, or near 8½ cents per bushel. The grant of land to encourage this enterprise was never made, nor is there any evidence that Mr. Frobisher ever located in the township. It is more probable that this enterprise in its infancy was encouraged by Caleb Wilder of Lancaster, a man of ability and enterprise. He was one of the proprietors of Dorchester Canada, and exercised a controlling influence in its affairs. He was engaged in the manufacture of potash in several places, and was the first to employ kettles in forwarding the process of evaporation, and it was here he manufactured that historical ton of potash, at that time the largest shipment that had been made at one time. One of the early and longest continued works of this character was situated nearly opposite the No. 1 school-house. The water for the leaches was conveyed from a spring not far from the Powder House. At this place Joseph Jewett and Ivers Jewett manufactured large quantities of potash. The works were under the supervision of John Woods. Captain Lemuel Whitney and several others were engaged in this manufacture until a comparatively recent date.

The Distribution of Lands. — Very early in the proceedings of the proprietors, the first division lots of fifty acres and the second division lots of eighty acres were laid out and became the private property of the several proprietors. Exclusive of the six grants within the township, over which the proprietors had no control, the undivided land, comprising nearly two-thirds of the township, was the common property of the corporation. Passing over many

votes and the selection of committees to lay out additional lands which produced no results, the first substantial accomplishment was in 1762, when a third division lot of eighty acres was assigned to the owner of each right. A few of these lots were assigned previously but there was no general distribution until this date. A fourth and a fifth division soon followed. The last were called equivalent lots, for the reason that the more valuable ones were given to the persons who had drawn inferior fourth division lots. After these distributions of land, there remained about twenty small tracts of land in different parts of the township, including five islands in Upper Naukeag. These remained common property until an auction sale in 1781. At this sale a tract of fifty acres was purchased by Rev. John Cushing. This was the original number 51 in the first division which the proprietors allowed Deacon Moses Foster to relinquish and lay out another lot bearing the same number a short distance northeast of the common. The great island was sold to Edward Withington and the four smaller islands were purchased by Timothy Fisher. The common lands were the capital of the corporation of the proprietors, and when this was all disposed of the organization was dissolved. The owner of each right in the township had received five tracts of land and had been required to pay one-sixtieth of all the taxes assessed from time to time. When the remaining lands were sold and the debts liquidated, there was remaining in the treasury a sum of money which was divided among the proprietors, and on each right was paid £2–10–2. From a financial stand-point, if the value of the land and this insignificant dividend exceeded the amount of taxes assessed from time to time, the enterprise was successful. But in forwarding and solidifying the settlement, in extending the fruits of organization, and in their agency in the control of

public affairs the proprietors were inspired by loftier purposes and nobler aims.

The following table presents a list of the owners of the several rights when the propriety was organized and the first division of lands was made. Compared with the list in Chapter II., it is found that sixteen persons who were admitted as grantees of the township had sold their interest in the grant previous to the early meetings of the proprietors. The right-hand column gives the name of some subsequent owner of the same right. Five rights were continued in the same name throughout the existence of the organization. In some instances a right was owned by several persons in succession. In filling the right-hand column in such cases, the name of the person in whose possession the right remained the longest time has been selected.

This list of proprietors introduces many names which became intimately associated with the continued history of the town. Zimri Heywood, Ebenezer Conant, Jonathan Samson, Samuel Fellows, James Coleman, David Taylor, James Spaulding, Nathan Melvin, John Bates, Jonathan Gates, Nathan Dennis, Elisha Coolidge, Moses Foster, Josiah Wilder, Jonathan Winchester, Stephen Ames and David Clark were well-known resident proprietors. Many of the non-resident proprietors were succeeded by their sons who subsequently occupied the lands acquired by inheritance. Among this class the families of Wilder, Stearns, Kelton, Dana and Crehore are conspicuous.

The families who settled on any of the six minor grants do not appear in these records of the proprietors, and not until the act of incorporation did they constitute a part of the body politic.

ORIGINAL PROPRIETORS.	FIRST DIVISION.	SECOND DIVISION.	THIRD DIVISION.	FOURTH DIVISION.	EQUIVALENT LOTS.	LATER OWNERS OF THE SAME RIGHT.
Timothy Mossman,	1	35	31	7	32	Zimri Heywood.
Elisha Tilestone,	2	45	18	39	12	William Babcock.
William Cooper,	3	49	57	23	35	Joshua Henshaw.
Andrew Wilder,	4	24	36	12	55	William Scott.
Edward Sumner,	5	29	51	60	13	Samuel Sumner.
Joseph Triscott,	6	47	2	18	45	John Moffatt.
John Swift,	7	20	17	53	19	Eben'r Conant.
Ministry,	8	11	16	62	62	
School,	9	12	15	63	63	
Hezekiah Barber,	10	58	6	55	21	Caleb Dana.
Samuel Blake,	11	17	40	17	43	John Moffatt.
Edward Hartwell,	12	14	5	14	60	Jonathan Samson.
Thomas Wilder,	13	41	7	54	20	Recompense Wardsworth Stimson.
Joseph Weeks,	14	56	48	56	22	do do do
Josiah Baker,	15	42	38	44	24	Samuel Fellows.
Ebenezer Crane,	16	22	52	48	6	William Bowdoin.
Hezekiah Barber,	17	18	62	47	7	James Coleman.
Joseph Warren,	18	3	30	20	42	Samuel Fellows.
Isaac Royal,	19	52	50	16	32	Samuel Fellows.
Timothy Tilestone,	20	8	42	28	23	——— Gordon.
Isaac Royal,	21	43	59	42	17	Caleb Dana.
Matthias Evans,	22	4	12	50	10	——— Griggs.
John Andrews,	23	30	63	21	36	David Taylor.
Thomas Tilestone,	24	2	45	9	26	Caleb Wilder.
Nathan Heywood,	25	37	14	15	31	Caleb Wilder.
Joseph Wilder, Esq.,	26	7	27	31	38	Caleb Wilder.
Benjamin Bird, Jr.,	27	26	43	49	9	James Spaulding.
Ralph Pope,	28	57	21	11	46	Ebenezer Pope.
Humphrey Atherton,	29	31	28	30	30	Nathan Heywood.
Nathaniel Blake,	30	33	22	32	40	Isaac Stearns.
James Mears,	31	40	8	26	51	Samuel Dwight.
John Crehore,	32	6	39	6	50	John Crehore.
Isaac How,	33	23	19	61	61	Isaac Stearns.
Robert Redman,	34	5	34	33	18	Isaac Stearns.
Thomas Tilestone,	35	39	33	52	33	Nathan Melvin.
Thomas Tilestone,	36	60	29	36	5	Caleb Dana.
Oliver Wilder,	37	32	46	46	41	John Bates.
Benjamin Sumner,	38	53	11	5	49	Benjamin Sumner.
Joseph Wheelock,	39	16	1	19	3	Jonathan Gates.
Ebenezer Clapp,	40	59	13	10	57	Benjamin Hammett.
John Shepard,	41	9	37	4	48	Oliver Wilder.
William White,	42	55	9	41	56	Caleb Dana.
Samuel Henshaw,	43	1	25	40	28	Caleb Dana.
William Cooper,	44	28	41	43	8	Alexander Hill.
Nehemiah Clapp,	45	25	10	35	2	Nehemiah Clapp.
Jonathan Dwight,	46	63	3	1	34	Nathan Dennis.
Edward Kelton,	47	50	47	34	11	Heirs.
Samuel Butt,	48	44	20	3	47	Elisha Coolidge.

ORIGINAL PROPRIETORS.	FIRST DIVISION.	SECOND DIVISION.	THIRD DIVISION.	FOURTH DIVISION.	EQUIVALENT LOTS.	LATER OWNERS OF THE SAME RIGHT.
Benjamin Jewett,	49	46	61	45	27	Jonathan Gates.
Joshua George,	50	19	4	2	25	Elisha Coolidge.
Robert Cook,	51	36	55	27	15	Moses Foster.
Thomas Lyon, Jr.,	52	48	56	13	53	Josiah Wilder.
Richard Withington,	53	61	44	37	4	Henry Coolidge.
James Atherton,	54	51	58	57	44	Caleb Dana.
Seth Sumner,	55	62	24	51	14	Caleb Dana.
James Swift,	56	21	23	29	54	James Swift.
First Minister,	57	10	53	24	16	Jonathan Winchester.
Bartholomew Gould,	58	13	35	22	37	Moses Burgess.
Samuel Kneeland,	59	54	49	59	1	Samuel Kneeland.
John Robinson, Jr.,	60	27	60	25	59	Stephen Ames.
Thomas Tilestone,	61	15	54	8	58	Benjamin Church.
Thomas Stearns,	62	38	26	58	39	David Clark.
William Sumner,	63	34	32	38	29	Eben'r Hemenway.

Many of the non-resident proprietors were men of influence and character and during their connection with the affairs of this town were actively engaged in other pursuits. One of the most influential and useful members of the propriety was Caleb Wilder. He was a son of the elder Judge Joseph Wilder and a lifelong resident of Lancaster. Owning several rights in the plantation, from an early date until after the incorporation of the town, he continued to exercise a controlling influence in the general direction of its affairs. He introduced the manufacture of potash here and was a leading spirit in all the concerns of the settlement. In 1765 he was styled major and probably held other commissions in this line of service. He was a deacon of the church and honorably filled many positions of trust in his native town. He died June 19, 1776, aged sixty-six years. Two of his sons, Caleb, Jr., and Samuel, became useful citizens of this town. In an eminent degree they reflected the sterling character and marked ability of their honored father.

Joseph Wilder, another son of Judge Joseph Wilder, was born in Lancaster, 1708. He was a surveyor, a magistrate, a colonel in the militia, and after the death of his father he was also one of the Justices of the County Court. He settled in the North Precinct or Lancaster New Grant which was incorporated under the name of Leominster in 1740. Forgetting that Leominster originally was a part of Lancaster, it is sometimes erroneously stated that he removed from Lancaster to Leominster in 1740. While a proprietor of Dorchester Canada, for many years he was also the owner of the Starr and the Converse grants. He died September 12, 1776.

Oliver Wilder was a cousin of Judge Wilder, Sen. An early proprietor, he was frequently named on important committees and after the death of Thomas Tilestone he was often chosen to preside at the meetings of the corporation. Like nearly all the Wilders he was a military man and rose to the rank of colonel. He died March 8, 1765.

Thomas Wilder remained a proprietor but a short time; his right was subsequently owned by Caleb Dana.

The Sumners were extensively engaged in buying and selling land in other townships. Seth Sumner was the only one of this name who attended any considerable number of the meetings or was in any way identified with the settlement beyond the purchase and sale of lands.

Caleb Dana was of Cambridge, where he was born 1697, and died April 28, 1769. Becoming a proprietor about 1750, at one time he owned nearly four thousand acres or over one-eighth of the township. He was a magistrate, and at his home and in the councils of the proprietors an active, energetic man. His land in this town was subsequently owned by his son George Dana, who settled here about 1776 and died in this town April 11, 1787.

Richard Dana, a brother of Caleb Dana, resided in Cambridge; born June 26, 1700, and died May 17, 1772. He was a graduate of Harvard University and an able lawyer. Several years he was clerk of the propriety, leaving a clear, ornate record. His son, Francis Dana, and grandson, Richard H. Dana, were men of national reputation.

Henry Coolidge, a brother of Elisha Coolidge, who settled here, owned a right several years. He married a daughter of Caleb Dana and resided in Cambridge.

Joshua Henshaw, Esq., of Boston, as he was styled when named in the records, was probably the same who was elected to the Council in 1768. On account of his patriotism he was not recognized by the royal Governor and was later one of the selectmen of Boston.

Rev. John Swift of Framingham married a sister of Thomas Tilestone. An original proprietor he continued his interest in the township until his death in 1745. In his will he gave to his son, Rev. John Swift, Jr., of Acton, "his right of land in Dorchester Canada," who remained a proprietor until the common lands were distributed. He was admitted a grantee on account of the service of his brother William Swift of Dorchester who perished in the expedition under Sir William Phipps in 1690.

Joseph Wheelock of Lancaster, and after 1740 of Leominster, served on important committees in the earlier proceedings, but after 1760 his right was owned by Jonathan Gates who became a settler.

Rev. William Cooper was pastor of the Brattle Street Church, Boston. He was the original owner of two rights which were subsequently owned by Alexander Hill and Joshua Henshaw.

Isaac Stearns was not a proprietor until about 1760. He was a son of Hon. John Stearns of Billerica where he was

born June 16, 1722, and there resided until his death April 23, 1808. He was a representative, a senator, a magistrate and a most useful citizen. By his associates in the propriety he was held in great esteem and was frequently named on important committees. Two of his sons, Isaac and William, subsequently settled in this town.

With the close of this chapter we leave the non-resident proprietors in the retirement of their homes. Many of the later proprietors became residents and in the following chapters it will appear that the propriety introduced to the town a considerable number of its most valued and useful citizens. The proprietors left the town many legacies. An unwearied effort to forward the settlement had been a constant aim and purpose. The meeting-house, the mills, the division of the town into lots, and an initial system of roads must be placed to their credit. In the proceedings of their meetings the settlers became familiar with method and system which they subsequently called to their aid in the management of town affairs. They left an impress and imparted a character to the settlement that reflects in pleasing lines the worth of the men and the spirit of the organization.

CHAPTER IV.

FROM THE INCORPORATION TO THE REVOLUTION.

INCORPORATION. — THE PETITIONS OF THE INHABITANTS AND OF THE PROPRIETORS. — THE NAME OF ASHFIELD PROPOSED. — THE CHARTER. — EARLY TOWN MEETINGS. — ASHBY INCORPORATED. — CONTRIBUTION TO ASHBY. — NEW ARRIVALS. — SALARY OF THE MINISTER. — SCHOOLS. — ABATEMENT OF THE PROVINCE TAX. — REVOLUTIONARY FLASHES. — DEATH OF FIRST MINISTER. — THE COMMON. — TAX LIST 1770. — PRICE OF COMMODITIES. — A POUND AND FIELD DRIVERS. — GARDNER FIRST SUGGESTED. — WARNING OUT.

ASHBURNHAM was incorporated February 22, 1765. In this decisive measure several interests were involved. The concern of the non-resident proprietors in an act of incorporation was measured by its probable effect upon the value of their lands in the township; to the resident proprietors with an equal interest in the value of lands were tendered the responsibilities and privileges of citizenship in the proposed town; there were also a few residents who were not proprietors and whose only interest was of a personal character, and last there were the settlers on the independent grants or farms, as they were commonly called. Nearly all of the last named class were the Germans, who had settled on the Lexington grant. Until the town was incorporated they had constituted a little republic and were as independent of the proprietors as were the inhabitants of the neighboring towns. They built roads within their grant and managed their internal affairs with no intermediate authority between themselves

and the laws of the province. It was the office of an act of incorporation to join and cement these several interests and give to every citizen an equal voice in the management of public affairs. The measure of deliberation and conference which led to a union of these interests in the solicitation for incorporation cannot be determined. There is no evidence of any discord in the progress of these proceedings, yet it is certain that the resident proprietors were the first to propose the measure. Their petition was considered by the General Court as early as June 7, 1763, when it was resolved that the prayer of the petition of the inhabitants of Dorchester Canada to be incorporated be granted, and that they have leave to bring in a bill. At a meeting of the proprietors in May, 1764, it was decided to apply to the General Court for an act of incorporation. Richard Dana, Joshua Henshaw and Caleb Dana were chosen to present their petition. To this committee, Samuel Fellows, Elisha Coolidge, Jonathan Samson and Samuel Nichols were joined to represent the inhabitants. In accordance with their instructions the committee of the proprietors joined by Samuel Nichols representing the residents of the township presented the following petition:

To his Excel^{cy} Francis Bernard Esq^{r} Capt^{n} general & govern^{r} in chief in & over his Majesty's province of Massachusetts Bay, the Hon'ble his Majesty's Council and the Hon^{ble} house of representatives in general court assembled at Concord on y^{e} 5th day of June Anno Dom. 1764.

Humbly Sheweth

The proprietors & inhabitants of that plantation in the county of Worcester call'd Dorchester Canada That its inhabitants are now increased to such a number as in the petitioners humble opinion makes it fiting & Expedient for them to be incorporated into a town. That y^{e} s^{d} proprietors long since

built a meeting house there for public worship & for y^e^ space of four years last past & more have had an able learned & orthodox minist^r^ of y^e^ gospel settled there whom y^e^ petit^rs^ have supported hitherto. That y^e^ incorporating y^e^ s^d^ plantation will greatly promote the growth thereof by removing the great and unavoidable inconveniences which they have hitherto laboured under & will continue during their present situation. That for promoting their incorporation y^e^ petit^rs^ have agreed & voted that a tax of three half pence an acre be laid by y^r^ Excel^ly^ & Hon^r^ upon all y^e^ lands & farms within y^e^ limits & plan of y^e^ s^d^ plantation, (except y^e^ Cambridge farm, parsonage or ministry lands & y^e^ school lands) to continue for y^e^ term of three years from y^e^ 25^th^ day of Jan^y^ last, sixty pounds thereof to be annually applied for y^e^ paym^t^ of their minister's salary & y^e^ residue for further finishing their meeting house afores^d^, Keeping y^e^ public county road there in due repair & for necessary charges.

Wherefore your petitioners pray that the plantation afores^d^ with all the lands & farms within y^e^ plantation and limits thereof may be incorporated into a town & that y^e^ inhabitants thereof may be invested with y^e^ like power & privileges that other towns in this province are invested withall. And that y^e^ afores^d^ tax as agreed upon may be ratified & confirmed. And y^r^ petit^rs^ as in duty bound will ever pray.

RIC^D^ DANA.
JOSHUA HENSHAW.
CALEB DANA.
SAMUEL NICHOLS.
Com^ttee^.

It is prayed y^t^ y^e^ intended town may be called Ashfield.

The request of the petitioners that the new town be called Ashfield was disregarded by the royal Governor. At that date the nobility of England were frequently complimented in the selection of names for the incorporated towns, and Governor Bernard was greatly inclined to this system

of nomenclature. The town of Ashfield in this State received its name and its charter only four months after the incorporation of this town, In the employment of that name it is asserted that the Governor tendered a compliment to Lord Thurlow of Ashfield, a member of the king's council. It is possible that some of the proprietors of Dorchester Canada who were on intimate terms with Governor Bernard proposed the name with a knowledge that it was one he held in reserve for early use, or with equal probability it may be presumed that with more immediate associations the inhabitants found in Ashfield a fitting name for a town engaged in the manufacture of potash. In either event the suggestion was of no avail. The General Court, with an accommodating regard for an assumed prerogative of the Governor, in the act of incorporation, left the name a blank, which was subsequently supplied with the name of Ashburnham which is supposed to be in honor of John, the second Earl of Ashburnham. It is a good name and consequently better than precious ointment.

It is probable that the settlers had selected their committee in advance, and that they were joined with the other committee by the proprietors in courteous recognition of the fact. Further evidence of conference appears in a vote of the proprietors obligating themselves to pay into the treasury of the proposed town for a term of years an annual tax of three half pence on each acre of land owned by them, provided the other lands in the township were taxed at the same rate. This agreement between the resident and non-resident proprietors, was recognized by the general Court and was made a part of the act of incorporation. An exception, however, was made by the Legislature of Cambridge farm, then owned by the town of Cambridge, and for that reason it was exempted from the payment of the pro-

posed tax. An act of incorporation, with no name of the town inserted, passed both houses of the General Court February 15, 1765, and four days later the engrossed bill bearing the name of ASHBURNHAM was sent to the Governor for approval. The bill was signed February 22, 1765, the day that Washington entered upon his thirty-fourth year. The act creating a town and vesting it with civic powers and privileges, is in the following terms:

An Act for incorporating a new Plantation in the county of Worcester called and known by the name of Dorchester Canada into a Town by the name of Ashburnham.

Whereas the inhabitants of the Plantation called and known by the name of Dorchester Canada labour under many difficulties and inconveniences by reason of their not being incorporated: Therefore for the removal thereof —

Be it enacted by the Governor, Council and House of Representatives, that the Plantation commonly known by the name of Dorchester Canada according to the bounds of the original grant thereof made by the General Court the first day of June 1736 being as follows, viz:

A Tract of Land of six miles square bounding southerly on the Narraganset Township N° 2 Westerly on a Township laid out for Tilton and others. Northerly on a township laid out for Ipswich and Easterly part on Townsend and part on Lunenburg. It begins at a Hemlock, the northeasterly corner of the said Narraganset Town and runs West Eighteen degrees South seven miles wanting twenty rods; from thence North twelve degrees East eight miles and two hundred rods; and from thence East twelve degrees South seven miles and one hundred perch; from thence Southerly by said Townsend line one thousand one hundred and twenty rods and by Lunenburg line six hundred and twenty rods to where it first began. And the Inhabitants of the same Plantation together with all the Lands and Farms included within the same boundaries be and hereby are incorporated into a town,

by the name of ASHBURNHAM, and that the same town be and hereby is vested with all the powers privileges and immunities, that any other of the towns in this Province do or may by law exercise and enjoy.

And whereas it is agreed between the Inhabitants of the Plantation aforesaid and the Proprietors of the common and undivided lands there, that a tax of three half pence an acre be laid upon all the land within the same (Excepting Cambridge Farm and the lands alloted and reserved for the ministry, the first settled minister there and the school) for the space of three years from the fifth and twentieth day of January one thousand seven hundred and sixty-four; Sixty pounds whereof to be annually applied to and for the payment of the minister's salary and the residue towards finishing the public meeting house there and for repairing the public roads through the said Plantation from and after the aforesaid twenty-fifth day of January.

Be it therefore Enacted, that there be and hereby is granted a tax of three half pence an acre to be annually levied and assessed upon all the lands in the aforesaid Township (except the lands and farms before excepted) for the term aforesaid and for the uses and purposes aforesaid and that the proprietors aforesaid be thenceforward discharged and free from all further and other taxes and expenses on account of those articles and every of them, unless by order of this Court.

And be it further enacted that Joseph Wilder Esq be and he hereby is impowered to issue his Warrant to some one of the principal Inhabitants of the aforesaid new Town, requiring him to warn the Inhabitants thereof to assemble at the aforesaid Meeting House sometime in the month of March next to choose all town officers by law required for carrying on and managing the affairs of the said town and to assess levy and collect the tax aforesaid.

In compliance with the duty enjoined in the act, Joseph Wilder of Leominster, who was then one of the justices of the County Court, issued the following warrant:

WORCESTER ss. To Dea Samuel Fellows, one of the principal inhabitants of the new town of Ashburnham Greeting: — In his Majesty's name you are required to warn all the Inhabitants of said Ashburnham to assemble at the Meeting House in said town on Monday the twenty-fifth day of this instant March at ten o'clock in the forenoon to choose a Moderator to govern said meeting and to choose all town officers as before recited and to agree how to call meetings for the future.

Hereof fail not and make due return.

Given under my hand and seal this eleventh day of March in the fifth year of his Majesty's reign Anno Domini 1765.

JOSEPH WILDER,

Justice of the Peace.

By the terms of his instructions Judge Wilder was required to issue his warrant to one of the principal men of the place. The mantle of honor fell upon Deacon Fellows. The selection was approved by the town who made choice of the same principal inhabitant to preside over the first town meeting assembled in Ashburnham. William Whitcomb was chosen town clerk, and the principal inhabitants were so numerous that five were delegated to perform the duties of selectmen. They were Deacon Samuel Fellows, Tristram Cheney, James Coleman, John Rich and Jonathan Gates. Jonathan Gates was also chosen constable and Samuel Wilder collector of taxes. For assessors the town chose Samuel Wilder, William Joyner and John Bates. The town had no money, but anticipating future possibilities, Deacon Samuel Fellows was chosen treasurer. For wardens the town selected Deliverance Davis and Jacob Schoffe. The highway surveyors were Stephen Ames, Tristram Cheney, Deliverance Davis, James Coleman and Jonathan Samson. To the office of tithingmen with its solemn obligations the town called Tristram Cheney and John Kiblinger.

Elisha Coolidge was made surveyor of boards and shingles and also of wheat. For deer reeves the town solicited the watchful attention of Nathan Melvin and William Benjamin. The custody of weights and measures, if they had any, was delegated to Elisha Coolidge. Christian William Whiteman and John Samson were selected for "vewers," an office relating to the division of lands, and then with the choice of Henry Selham and Samuel Foster to officiate as hog reeves, the list of officers was completed. The next meeting was called in his Majesty's name to assemble on the twenty-ninth of April for the transaction of business which could not be considered under the former warrant. Thomas Wheeler, who was not named in the proceedings of the first meeting, was chosen moderator. It was voted to raise six pounds to defray town charges and "fifty pounds to make and mend private ways." For labor upon the roads it was voted to allow two shillings and six pence per day for each man and one shilling and four pence for a pair of oxen. The number of hours was not stipulated. Samuel Wilder, William Joyner and John Bates were chosen to sell the land of delinquent tax-payers, and after a vote to let swine run at large the ensuing year, in a motion to adjourn they secured an equal liberty for themselves. Two other town meetings were called before the close of the year. At the former the town declined to send a representative to the General Court, and at the second meeting Samuel Nichols was chosen collector of taxes in room of Samuel Wilder who was out of town about one year. In June of this year Tristram Cheney and William Joyner certify that they have "perambulated the line between Winghendon and Ashburnham."

With their enlarged privileges under the act of incorporation the settlers were met with heavy burdens in the form of taxes. The land tax for 1764 and 1765, amounting to £255,

a province tax of £30, a county tax £1–11–0, and a tax of £6 to defray town expenses, must have placed them on familiar terms and close relations with the collector of taxes.

Scarcely had the town been organized and the inhabitants become familiar with their new duties and privileges when several families and fifteen hundred acres of land were joined to another township. Ashby was incorporated March 5, 1767, but the proceedings in which the inhabitants of Ashburnham participated occurred at an earlier date. Until 1764 the territory included within the present towns of Townsend, Lunenburg, Ashburnham, Fitchburg and Ashby was embraced by the three towns first named. In 1764 Fitchburg was set off from Lunenburg and at that time included the southern part of Ashby. The incorporation of Ashburnham in the following year did not change boundary lines. Very soon after, Ashby was formed from portions of Townsend, Fitchburg and Ashburnham. Thus John Fitch and others, living in 1763 in the vicinity of the present residence of Paul Gates in the southern part of Ashby, were residents of Lunenburg; in 1764 they were in Fitchburg, and in 1767 they were in Ashby. With bewildering suddenness and without a change of residence they were citizens of three towns and attended town meetings in as many places in this brief space of time. The original petition, for the creation of Ashby, was before the General Court several months before Ashburnham was incorporated. While a part of the petitioners for Ashby were pressing a solicitation to become inhabitants of one town they were included within another. They continued, however, to pursue their original project and joining with the other petitioners an organization was effected and a committee, consisting of John Fitch of Fitchburg, Jacob Schoffe of Ashburnham and James Locke, Jr., of Townsend, was chosen to appear before the General

Court in support of their petition. At a meeting of the proprietors only a few days after the incorporation of Ashburnham a committee was chosen to remonstrate against the loss of the most thickly settled portion of the town. The following year the subject was laid before the town at a special meeting called for that purpose. The petitioners in the northeast part of the town joined by the Germans were a clear majority of the town. Conscious of their power, they proposed to carry with themselves a very considerable portion of the township, including the Cambridge and Lexington farms and all that part of Ashburnham east of a line running from the northwest corner of Lexington farm across the summit of Great Watatic to the province line.

This liberal proposition included a majority of the inhabitants and about one-fourth of the area of the township. Immediately following the record of the meeting is recorded a protest against the measure, signed by Samuel Fellows, Tristram Cheney, Samuel Nichols, Jonathan Gates, George Dickerson, Nathan Melvin, Elisha Coolidge, William Joyner, Samuel Foster and Enos Jones. No reason is found for the absence of the names of Benjamin Whitcomb, Moses Foster, Jeremiah Foster, Deliverance Davis and others who were then living west of the proposed line and who very naturally would be in sympathy with the remonstrants. This proposition, however, was very materially modified by the General Court. When Ashby was finally incorporated only about one-fourth of the proposed area was severed from Ashburnham. Many years later another tract was joined to Ashby, but the original division line between the towns in 1767 left the eastern boundary of Ashburnham almost a straight line, extending very nearly due north from the northeast corner of Westminster to the State line. The corner of the two towns at the State line was very nearly a

mile east of the present corner. In this form the town of Ashburnham remained until after the Revolution, when a second donation to Ashby and the incorporation of Gardner cut off two areas from the opposite corners of the town.

Among the settlers included within the town of Ashby were several town officers who were chosen only three days before that town was incorporated. Captain John Jones, residing on the Amos Wellington farm then in Ashburnham, was a selectman here in 1766 and again elected in 1767. The same year he was chosen a selectman of Ashby.

James Coleman had been elected one of the constables, an office then including the collection of taxes. Notwithstanding the change in town lines, the assessors of Ashburnham committed to him a tax list for collection and in November of the following year "y^{e} town voted to Defend y^{e} Town Treasurer in a Trial with James Colman for to get y^{e} money that was assest in y^{e} year 1767 which assessment was Delivered to s^{d} Colman to Colect." It is probable that both towns claimed the taxes assessed this year on the estates set off to Ashby and that Mr. Coleman found it difficult to serve two masters. By this change in town lines, in addition to John Jones and James Coleman, Ashburnham lost Thomas Stearns, Zimri Heywood, John Bates, David Taylor, Henry Selham, Benjamin Spaulding, Samuel Derby, Samuel Rice, Levi Houghton and perhaps a few others. Several of these became prominent in the affairs of Ashby. The only German was Mr. Selham whose name is generally written Sellenham in the Ashby records.

Unless there were two persons of the same name, Benjamin Spaulding returned to Ashburnham in 1768 and in 1769 as will appear joined in a petition to be set off to Ashby a second time. Had he succeeded and continued the process he would have whittled away the entire township.

1766. The new names appearing in the proceedings of this year are Henry Hall, John Conn, Zimri Heywood, Moses Foster, Jr., Samuel Salter, Simon Rodamell, Henry Selham and Joseph Perry. Some of these had been here several years but were not named in the records of the preceding year. In addition to the land and province tax, the town raised twenty pounds for town charges and appropriated sixty pounds of the land tax for the support of roads. This year the town also voted not "to choose a man to Represent them at the great and general Coart or assembly to be held at Boston on Wensday the twenty eight Day of may Current at Nine of the Clock in the morning." But more mindful of internal improvement, the town voted to build a pound of stone or timber, two rods square inside, to be located near the barn of Christian William Whiteman, but this vote was reconsidered soon after and a pound was not built for several years. The records assert that this year "the town chose Mr. Timothy pane Esquier regeister for the County of Worcester." Mr. Paine was elected this year, leaving us to infer that either the remainder of the county magnanimously concurred in this action on the part of Ashburnham, or that the record is a simple assertion that Mr. Paine was the choice of the voters of this town. The custom of warning out all new arrivals is mentioned in another connection; the names of the men summoned to remove during the first two years of the existence of the town, were Samuel Salter, Joseph Perry, Oliver Wetherbee, Daniel Merrill, Daniel Harper, Timothy Farley, Amasa Turner and George Hewitt.

1767. Early in the year 1767, a special meeting was called to make some arrangements concerning the salary of the minister. When the town assumed control of public affairs, Mr. Winchester had been settled several years. It only devolved upon the town to pay him the amount of

salary stipulated by the proprietors at the time of his settlement. By the terms of the act of incorporation this sum was to be paid out of the land tax. It only remained for the town to conduct the assessment and collection of this tax. The result of this meeting indicates that the only issue raised at this time related to the time when the salary of the minister should be paid. A committee was chosen "to discourse with Rev. Mr. Winchester relating to his salary." At a subsequent meeting the town acted upon the report of their committee by a vote "to pay Mr. Winchester one half of his salary at eight months' end."

The records of this year introduce the earliest reference to schools in a vote to raise eight pounds for that purpose, and voted that "y^{t} y^{e} school should be a moveing school and to leave it y^{e} Select men to make y^{e} Quarters where y^{e} school shall be Cept. Voted it to bee a free school."

The increasing burden of taxation and the inability of many of the settlers to meet these increasing demands upon their limited resources find frequent expression in the records. In June the town chose John Moffat of Boston, Rev. Jonathan Winchester and Tristram Cheney, to apply to the General Court for an abatement of the province tax. In connection with this effort the following petition was made to the General Court:

To His Excellency Francis Bernard Esq. Captain General and Governor in Chief of His Majesty's Provence of the Massachusetts Bay, to the Honnorable his majestys Council & the Hon^{ble} House of Representatives, In General Court assembled.

December 30 1767

The Petition of the Inhabitants of Ashburnham humbly Sheweth:

That whereas a Provence Tax for a number of years Past has been Laid on your Petitioners no Part thereof has been paid, that your Petitioners Labouring under great poverty think them selves

utterly unable To make any such payment, that the soil we Possess is very Stubborn Requiring much hard Labour before any profit can be reaped from it. That the greatest part of your petitioners have been in said Town but a short time and are unable to raise provisions sufficient for the support of our families. And as there is far from being enough produced in the Town to maintain the Inhabitants we have not only nothing to Convert into money; but are at much annual expense for the necessays of Life or be destitute of them; or else contract debts unpayable without the forfeiture of our Lands.

That y^e^ growth of y^e^ said Town has been much obstructed by y^e^ said tax as many persons have of Late gone over y^e^ Provence Line to avoid a burden which seams so likely to be unsupportable and fatal. That your Poor petitioners are unable to keep our few cattle alive in y^e^ winter season without driving a considerable proportion of them out of town for subsistence. That your Petitioners House of Public Worship has lately been struck by a Hurricane and y^e^ cost to repare Cannot be less than £30. Lawful money. With all that can be done to said House it must be Rebuilt in a few years. That the Death of our very worthy Pastor y^e^ Reverend M^r^ Winchester your Petitioners must needs be exerted to a very great additional expence.

Therefore your Humble Petitioners very earnestly beseech your Excellency & Honers to considerate our unhapy circumstances by Removing ye grievous Tax or to Releive us in such way as in your great wisdom you shall Think fitt. And your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray &c.

TRISTRAM CHENEY in behalf of sd Town.

Dated at Ashburnham, December y^e^ 23^d^ 1767.

The petition was kindly received by the General Court and all the province taxes then due from this town were forgiven. Qualifying the petition with the reflection that it is an argument for effect, it is true, however, that it presents a view of the poverty and distress of a new settlement and

from it we learn much of the situation of the town at this date.

November 30, 1767, the inhabitants were warned to assemble on the tenth of the following month "to see if the town will comply with the town of Boston in not purchasing any of the articles mentioned in the paper sent to the selectmen." The paper referred to was the historic letter of the selectmen of Boston, dated October 28, and sent to the selectmen of the several towns in the province, respecting the sale and use of certain foreign articles upon which Parliament had laid a tax. At the meeting in Ashburnham it was voted "to comply with the request of the selectmen of Boston respecting the articles in a paper they sent to us." Here is found the first and a very early act relating to the Revolution. It was one of a series of events which foretold the approaching storm, truthfully reflecting the progress of public sentiment while the smouldering fires of discontent were being fanned into the flame of open revolt. Other towns actuated by an equal patriotism passed similar votes, but very few of them at this early date were prepared to speak with equal emphasis and promptness.

The death of the first minister occurred this year. A meeting was promptly called at which the town voted to defray the expenses of the funeral and to pay to Mrs. Winchester, a sum equal to the stated salary for the remainder of the year. No item of the expense of the burial of Mr. Winchester has been preserved, but in accordance with the customs of the times, it is probable that gloves, weeds and other insignia of mourning, were procured for the bereaved family and for the bearers. All were mourners and all followed the remains of their beloved pastor to the grave. The measure of their sorrow at the death and their respect for the character of Mr. Winchester were continually reflected in the kind con-

sideration in which they always regarded the widow and the children of their first minister.

1768. This year, Rev. John Cushing was settled. An account of the ordination and of a prolonged and successful ministry will be found in another chapter. Other proceedings of less magnitude complete the record of the year. In the warrant for the annual March meeting appears an article "To see if y^e^ town will vote y^t^ there shall be no ox sled Drawed in y^e^ Privet Roads in Ashburnham less than four feet and a half wide on Penalty such as y^e^ town shall think Proper." "Passed in y^e^ negative." The highways in this connection were styled private roads to distinguish them from the county roads which had been constructed, and in some measure were under the supervision of the court.

It was also ordered this year that "y^e^ Dutch should draw their school money" upon condition it was used for its legitimate purpose.

The increasing discontent of the colony in regard to the continued acts of oppression by the British government, and the promptness in which each infringement of their charter rights was resisted by the watchful spirit of democracy, again invite the citizens of Ashburnham to assemble in town meeting. Immediately following an unsuccessful attempt to persuade the Royal Governor of the province to convene the General Court, letters were sent to all the towns inviting them to send delegates to join in a conference over public affairs. The citizens of this town unanimously instructed their selectmen to send in writing their desire to join with the assembled delegates "in all proper way to defend our rights and privileges which was granted to us in our charter."

1769. It will be remembered that while the inhabitants were thus assembling in town meeting from year to year and

adopting measures concerning the prudential affairs of the town, the proprietors were still an active organization. Under the laws of the province, the town assumed the control of the roads, the support of the ministry and the general management of all municipal concerns, while the propriety, owning the undivided lands, was still an organized corporation. The proprietors surrendered the meeting-house to the town without any formal vote, and in 1770 at a meeting convened in Boston, there was a proposition under consideration to surrender to the town "the meeting house square with the reservation that the whole of it remains a common forever." This subject was dismissed without action and it is possible the proprietors considered that the common already belonged to the town under the title of public domain. If any consideration less friendly prompted the failure to relinquish their claim to the common, the inhabitants of the town had very little concern about it, and were masters of the situation. They had already disposed of one-fourth of it and were holding the remainder with grim complacency. Under an article to see if the town would sell a part of the common to Rev. John Cushing, the town in May, 1769, voted to make him a present of two and one-half acres at the east end and instructed the selectmen to give him a deed.

Benjamin Spaulding, and a few others residing in the northeast part of the town, petitioned the General Court to be annexed to Ashby. The town promptly expressed its dissent and submitted the matter to Samuel Wilder who successfully opposed the measure.

The questions arising in town meeting and the methods of treatment, are continually suggesting the changes which have attended the progress of years. One hundred and twenty-five years ago, as a source of revenue, the town voted that

"every inhabitant that takes cattle to run in the woods shall pay to the town four shillings per head." The same year, not having paid their minister the sum due for settlement, the town borrowed the money of Colonel Caleb Wilder and agreed to pay it in clearing land for him. For several years the town accepted labor on this account in payment of taxes.

1770. The annals of this year introduce very few subjects not anticipated in a general view of a town in the transaction of the ordinary business. The year preceding the town voted not to choose a committee "to see where the town's money had gone." They probably concluded it had never been gathered in, since this year a number of parcels of land belonging to non-residents were sold at auction in payment of taxes. From this source the town realized nearly fifty pounds. One of the purchasers at this sale was Rev. Mr. Cushing, who bought six and one-half acres between the common and Upper Naukeag lake. This year the court had under consideration the location of a county road from Winchendon to Westminster, passing through a corner of this town, now in Gardner. The town of Ashburnham instructed Samuel Wilder to oppose the project and "if need be, to employ an attorney." This road was built soon after, but the part of it within this town was inconsiderable.

In accordance with an act of the General Court, an inventory of the province tax for the year 1770 was returned by the assessors. Fortunately, the original is preserved in the State archives. This rate assessed on the polls had no connection with the land tax. The list preserves the names of the men residing in this town December 14, 1770. The names followed by the figures 2 or 3 paid the tax of as many persons, who might be either sons above sixteen years of age, or young men in their employ. Ebenezer Conant, Sen., was probably residing here at this time; later

in life he was a town charge, but no reason appears for the omission of his name. It was probably accidental. The omission of the name of Rev. John Cushing was probably intentional. The number of names in the list is seventy-four, which would indicate a population of less than four hundred.

John Adams
Stephen Ames
William Benjamin
Moses Bennett
John Bigelow
Nathan Bigelow
Joshua Billings
Abraham Blodgett
Isaac Blodgett
Jeremiah Bridge
Peter Brooks
Tristram Cheney (3)
David Clark
Job Coleman
Ebenezer Conant, Jr.
John Conn
Elisha Coolidge
Deliverance Davis
Amos Dickerson
David Dickerson
Salmon Dutton
Thomas Dutton
Elijah Edson
Samuel Fellows (3)
Jeremiah Foster
Moses Foster (2)
Samuel Foster
Henry Gates
Jonathan Gates (2)
Henry Hall (2)
Jacob Harris
Ebenezer Hemenway
Joseph Holden
Moses Johnson
Enos Jones
Abijah Joslin
James Joslin
Peter Joslin
John Kiblinger (2)
Benjamin Kemp
Nathan Melvin
Daniel Merrill
Joseph Metcalf
Samuel Nichols
Simeon Nutting
John Oberlock
Joseph Perry
Daniel Priest
John Rich
Simon Rodamell
Samuel Salter
Aaron Samson
John Samson
Jonathan Samson
Jacob Schoffe
Benjamin Spaulding
Ephraim Stone (3)
Oliver Stone
Jonathan Taylor
Philip Vorback
Caleb Ward
Jacob Wenneg
Oliver Wetherbee
Phinehas Wetherbee
Benjamin Whitcomb
Oliver Whitcomb
Christian Wm. Whiteman
Samuel Wilder (2)
Hezekiah Willard
John Willard
Oliver Willard
Andrew Winter
Timothy Wood
Abijah Worcester

1771. In addition to specific legislation regarding schools and the meeting-house, which will appear in other chapters, this year the town sold the right of land reserved for the benefit of schools.

From the incorporation of the town to this date there had been little change in the price of labor and many articles of merchandise. The depreciation of the currency a few years later introduced fictitious values in all business transactions. The town at this time continued to allow the selectmen and other town officers two shillings and eight pence per day. The rate of labor upon the highways for several years is

recorded in stated form: "three shilling per day from now to the last of September, one shilling and four pence for oxen and eight pence for a cart and after September two shillings per day." From an account of sales made in an adjoining town at this date it appears that upland hay sold at £1–5–0 per ton, rye at four shillings per bushel and butter from six to eight pence per pound.

1772. "Voted to buy some grave stones in memory of Rev^{d} Mr Jonathan Winchester and that M^{r} William Whitcomb be the man to get the above stones." This act commemorating, at once, the virtues of the dead and the serious impulses of the town resulted in the erection of the plain slate stone which yet marks the grave of the first minister. Future generations may erect at this grave a monument of far greater pretension, but none can ever express a more fitting devotion to the memory of him whose virtues are inscribed upon this ancient stone in language of sincere respect and love.

1773. Having built a pound the preceding year the town chose Benjamin Bigelow and Jacob Willard to conduct the business at that station. Field drivers, or hog reeves as they were formerly called, have been chosen every year since the incorporation of the town. This year, with a new adjunct to the office, the selection was made with due deference to ability and regard to place of residence. The location of the first pound is not certain. The pound at the southwest corner of the common was not built until 1794, but time and the elements appear to have been unusually active in hastening its destruction.

The manner in which our fathers regarded the obligation of contracts and the attention they paid to their proper fulfilment are reflected in a vote to "advance thirty pounds to the Rev^{d} M^{r} Cushing's Sallary to be assessed this year to make

up the Damage in his not giting his Sallary according to agreament."

1774. In prophecy of the political revolution near at hand and reflecting the sentiment of the people a town meeting is called for the first time without invoking the name of the king. In former years the people had been warned to assemble "in his Majesty's name." A meeting was called in September, 1774, in the simple terms, "You are requested to meet." Later the people were warned "in the name of the government and the people of the state of Massachusetts Bay," until the new constitution of the State introduced "the commonwealth of Massachusetts." These terms clearly indicate the progress of public sentiment during radical changes in the forms of government.

The incorporation of Gardner was almost consummated this year. The project was suffered to sleep during the Revolution but it scarcely failed at this time. The petition was signed by residents of Westminster, Templeton, Winchendon and Ashburnham who desired to be included in the proposed town. In answer to the petitioners, the town voted May 23, 1774, that the portion of Ashburnham southwest of a line extending from Samuel Kelton's lot to the lot of William Ames "be set off with portions of other towns to form a new town or district." The line described in this vote is substantially the same as the one established eleven years later. The Revolution caused a delay and introduced a name for the town, but the boundaries first proposed were not materially changed when the town eventually was incorporated.

Commencing with the date of incorporation and extending a few years beyond the limits of this chapter, the town continued the custom of warning out a majority of the arrivals in town. It was a precautionary proceeding suggested

and encouraged by the laws of the province. The statute provided that persons, who were legally warned out of the town, could not gain at once a full legal residence and that in case of extreme poverty the town would not be chargeable for their support. It was a cold reception but modified with a fair understanding that it was a formality of law in which there was often no sincerity. If it savors of inhumanity it was a fault of the law and not of the people. Its practice in other towns led to its adoption here in self-defence. In this connection it should be remembered, that while the sentiment of charity and brotherly love has ever existed in the heart of man, the present system of public charities which embraces all classes of unfortunate men and women of the Commonwealth is the result of more recent legislation. If the early settlers of this town were warned out, they were at once admitted to all social privileges. In some instance men who were warned out were elected to office at the following town meeting and became useful, substantial citizens contributing largely to the intelligence and wealth of a town to which they were so formally received. Not a few of those who served in the Revolution were welcomed in this manner to Ashburnham. In their turn they joined, in a more serious manner, in warning out an army of invasion before it gained a residence on American soil. A few extracts from the records will give a fair idea of the spirit of these proceedings.

To JONATHAN GATES, constable of the Town of Ashburnham, Greeting:

Whereas Joseph Perry and Mary Perry his wife, Joseph Perry, Juner, and Mary Perry and Abigail Perry and Annie Perry, children of Joseph and Mary Perry, Hath lately Come to the Town of Ashburnham and came last from Midway and Came to

the Town of Ashburnham November 1765, whom the Selectmen of Ashburnham Refuse to admit as Inhabitants of the said Town.

THESE are therefore in his majesties name to Require you, the said Constable to warn the persons a Bove mentioned forthwith to Depart out of the town of Ashburnham.

Hereof fail not and make Due return of this warrant with your Doings therein to some one of us the subscribers.

Given under our hands and seal at Ashburnham This Twelfth day of February A D 1766 in the Sixth year of his Majesties Rain.

TRISTRAM CHENEY, JOHN RICH, SAMUEL FELLOWS } Selectmen of Ashburnham.

WORCESTER ss. ASHBURNHAM, February 24 1766

In obedience and by virtue of the within written warrant I have warned the within named Joseph Perry and Mary Perry his wife Joseph Perry Juner Mary Perry Abigail Perry Annie Perry children of Joseph and Mary Perry, forthwith to Depart out of the town of Ashburnham.

JONATHAN GATES,
Constable of said Town.

In some instances the selectmen made a memorandum of the arrival of a family into town and in such cases no warrant is found.

Olive Davis and Mercy Davis Daughters of Jonas Davis of Harvard Deceased and Elizabeth his wife came into this town October y^{e} 14, 1767, and came last from Harvard.

Elijah Edson left Bridgewater June 17 1769 and brought with him Martha Edson his wife and three children Sarah Edson, Oliver Edson and Ziba Edson, whom the selectmen refuse to admit as Inhabitants of Ashburnham.

CHAPTER V.

REVOLUTIONARY HISTORY.

SITUATION OF THE TOWN. — THE COVENANT. — WORCESTER CONVENTION. — THE JUROR LIST. — REPRESENTED IN PROVINCIAL CONGRESS. — POWDER AND LEAD. — THE MILITIA ORGANIZED. — PROMINENT CITIZENS INTERVIEWED. — THE SALT PROBLEM. — ALARM AT LEXINGTON. — CAPTAIN GATES' COMPANY. — CAPTAIN DAVIS' COMPANY. — THE SIEGE OF BOSTON AND BATTLE OF BUNKER HILL. — CAPTAIN WILDER'S COMPANY — THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE. — ENLISTMENTS IN 1776. — AN HOUR OF GLOOM. — TOWN PROCEEDINGS. — SOLDIERS IN 1777. — ALARM AND CALL FOR TROOPS. — THE RESPONSE OF ASHBURNHAM. — CONTINENTAL AND OTHER SOLDIERS. — PUBLIC AID. — ASSENT TO THE ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION. — DEPRECIATION OF THE CURRENCY. — THE SOLDIERS IN THE FIELD. — NEW RECRUITS. — CLOTHING FOR THE ARMY. — ALAS, ONE DESERTER. — SOLDIERS IN 1779. — REPRESENTATIVE TO GENERAL COURT. — PRICE OF COMMODITIES. — CONSTITUTION PROPOSED. — THANKSGIVING. — SOLDIERS IN 1780. — TOWN MEETINGS. — OBSERVANCE OF THE SABBATH. — SOLDIERS IN 1781. — BOUNTY PROPOSED. — A FINE REMITTED. — REQUISITIONS FOR BEEF — HOME TRIALS.

THE story of Ashburnham in the Revolution comprehends neither the movements of armies nor the decisive results of sanguinary engagements. The causes of the war, the prevailing sentiment of the colonies and the campaigns and fortunes of the army are subjects of general history. It falls within the province of this chapter to record the names of the men of Ashburnham who were in the service and to present some account of the hardships endured at home. It will appear that the inhabitants of this town were in full sympathy with the patriotic sentiment of the colonies,

and in the field and at the fireside cheerfully bore a full measure of the hardships and burdens of the period. Compared with the older settlements the frontier towns were young and feeble; and, if remote from the earlier discussion of public grievances and from the theatre of war, it is certain they felt every pulsation of the heart of the colonies and responded to every demand.

The population of Ashburnham in 1776 was five hundred and fifty-one. Upon this little community, situated upon the border of the province, the provisional government and the patriotic impulse of the people, during the progress of the war, made heavy drafts for men and treasure. Inured to the privations and hardships of the frontier, the settlements bravely assumed burdens which would have been refused by people less familiar to lives of self-denial and hardships. During the Revolution the strength of the colonies rested in familiarity with poverty and toil. Patriotic impulse and a firm reliance in the righteousness of their cause were important factors, but it required hardihood as well as impulse and endurance as well as principle. A soldiery more tenderly nurtured and less inured to privation might bravely meet the enemy in the field but would have failed in the sufferings of Valley Forge.

Commencing with the beginning of open hostilities the older towns, situated near the theatre of the war, sent an increasing stream of immigration to the frontiers where a more comfortable feeling of security could be enjoyed. During the war all the towns in this vicinity increased rapidly in population. From 1776 to 1780 the population of Ashburnham was increased nearly twofold. The names of many families which are conspicuous in the annals of Ashburnham first appear at this time. All who removed hither were fraternally welcomed and the older resident and

the new arrival, actuated by a common purpose, are found side by side in the army or joined in procuring money and means to carry on the war.

It will appear in the course of this narrative that nearly every man residing in this town and nearly every boy over sixteen years of age were in the service for a longer or a shorter period. The records of Ashburnham do not preserve the names of any revolutionary soldiers. The search for the material for this chapter was made elsewhere. The State archives and the files of the Pension Office at Washington have been fruitful fields of research. It is believed that the following pages will contain the names of nearly all the residents of this town who served in the army during the Revolutionary War. No name has been admitted without unquestionable proof. Tradition and the records are frequently at variance, and in such cases the authority of the records has been accepted.

The winter preceding the repulse of the enemy at Lexington and Concord was a season of gloom and uncertainty. The colonists, and especially those of Massachusetts, were anxiously waiting for the clouds to break or, if inevitable, for hostilities to commence. This era of doubt and uncertainty cast the deepest gloom over the land. The inhabitants of Ashburnham are early found in full sympathy with the prevailing sentiment and with remarkable unanimity are early prepared for the decisive issue. As early as 1773 mention of the situation of public affairs finds expression in an article in the warrant for the annual March meeting, "To see if the Town will consider the general grievances that are laid upon us by acts of Parliament & disposing of our monies without our consent." At this time no action was taken, but in July, 1774, "it was moved that the Covenant sent from Boston be read and accordingly it was read.

Then a motion was made for an alteration and that Doctor Senter, George Dana, Elisha Coolidge, Samuel Nichols and Jonathan Samson be a committee to alter said covenant and adjourned said meeting for half an hour and then said Covenant was altered to the acceptance of the Town." "Voted that Elisha Coolidge Samuel Wilder and Samuel Nichols be a committee to keep the covenant after it is signed."

The covenant adopted in the foregoing vote was a solemn engagement, signed by the inhabitants of the town, that they would refrain from the purchase and use of certain articles of British merchandise, and that risking their lives and fortunes in the defence of their charter rights and privileges, they would resist all officers holding commissions under the late acts of Parliament. On the third day of September, the town was assembled to hear the report of Jonathan Taylor who had been chosen to attend a convention at Worcester, which met in August at the house of Mary Stearns, widow of Captain Thomas Stearns. The records do not afford any information of the character of the report, yet from other sources it is known that this convention recommended the several towns to appoint military officers, to provide arms and ammunition, and to make ample provision for any emergency that may arise. At the same meeting the progress of public sentiment is revealed in a vote to indemnify the officers of the town for not returning a list of jurors as required by an act of Parliament. This was a bold measure and in open resistance of royal authority. The colonists were extremely sensitive in regard to the influences surrounding the halls of justice. The man of lowest degree justly demanded a hearing on equal terms with the favorites of royalty. The existing discontent arose in the fact that the judges were appointed by the crown and provision was made in England for their support for the purpose of rendering them wholly independent

of colonial influence. This system of appointment and salary of the judges received early discussion and firm resistance. The vote of Ashburnham refusing to recognize the courts thus constituted in returning a list of jurors, was a part of the general action of the colony.

Two other important votes were passed at this meeting. First, the town choose Jonathan Taylor, a representative to the famous provincial congress which assembled at Concord, October 11, and by adjournment to Cambridge continued their deliberations until December 10, 1774. Evidently, not yet content with these expressions of opinion, and with these provisions for the future, at the same meeting, nearly a year before Washington assumed command of the army, the town voted "to buy half a hundred of powder and one hundred of lead and ten dozen of flints as a town stock." At this meeting, as stated, the town heard from their delegate the recommendations of the Worcester convention, and ten days later were again assembled to carry them into effect. The action of this meeting was brief yet decisive. A committee of safety and correspondence was chosen and the militia was organized. The record of the meeting preserves the roll of honor.

Chose Samuel Nichols, Jonathan Samson, Deliverance Davis, Abijah Joslin and Jonathan Taylor a committee of correspondence.

Voted that the following persons be the officers of the militia of said town: —

Abijah Joslin, captain.
Deliverance Davis, lieutenant.
Ebenezer Conant, Jr., ensign.
Amos Dickerson, first sergeant.
Jacob Harris, second sergeant.
Oliver Stone, third sergeant.

Enos Jones, fourth sergeant.
Phinehas Wetherbee, first corporal.
Salmon Dutton, second corporal.
George Dana, third corporal.
Ezra Atherton, fourth corporal.
John Conn, clerk.

This meeting completes the official action of the town for the year and introduces the names of men who will be frequently and honorably mentioned in the following pages. Early in 1775, we find two companies of organized militia, of which Captains Jonathan Gates and Deliverance Davis were commanders, but no record is found of their election or of the resignation of Captain Joslin.

1775. At the annual March meeting this year, five selectmen, consisting of John Kiblinger, Samuel Nichols, Captain Jonathan Gates, Oliver Stone and Amos Kendall, were chosen. Through the extended record of proceedings concerning the ordinary town affairs, the gleam of the Revolution is revealed in a vote that Captain Jonathan Gates be instructed to procure thirty-six cartridge boxes for the use of the minute-men at the expense of the town. A former town meeting had been convened early in the month at which town officers were chosen and the usual routine business was transacted. At the second meeting all the proceedings of the first meeting were declared null and void and new officers were chosen who continued in office through the year. The first meeting chose Samuel Wilder town clerk, but at the second meeting Jacob Willard was chosen to transcribe the public records. There is tradition that for a short time in the early stages of the Revolution, Rev. John Cushing, Samuel Wilder, Deacon John Willard, and possibly one or two others, were regarded with some measure of suspicion by the more ardent patriots. It is certain that about this

time a company of men, mainly from other towns, waited upon these gentlemen for an expression of their views on public affairs. Whatever may have been the character or influence of this interview, there was no further question in regard to the political opinions of these men. Mr. Wilder was elected town clerk the following year, an office he held with no other interruption from 1769 to 1792, and all of these men gave a cheerful support to every measure for the prosecution of the war. The population of the town was increased during the year 1775 by the arrival of the following men, most of whom had families: John Putnam, Nathaniel Adams, Peter Willard, Captain Joseph Wilder, Simeon Nutting, Timothy, David and Levi Chaplin, Asa Brocklebank and Jacob Wilker, the first of the name in town.

While this town voted throughout the year not to send a representative to the provincial congress, it is apparent that there was no want of interest in the progress of public affairs outside of the township, since a committee of inspection was promptly chosen "to see that the resolves of the Continental Congress respecting trade be strictly adhered to." To this duty William Whitcomb, Jonathan Taylor, Jonathan Samson, George Dana and Samuel Cutting were assigned. Similar to the action of other towns in this vicinity, Ashburnham adopted early measures to secure and distribute among the families of the town a supply of salt before the channels of trade were closed and many commodities beyond their grasp. A few votes on this subject are transcribed from the records:

Voted to Purchis 300 Bushels of salt for a town stock and chose Messrs. Jonathan Taylor, Amos Kindall and Samuel Foster to bee a committee to percure the same. Allso said committee is to give security in behalf of said town for said salt. Said town

to alow Mr. Amos Kindall, 18 shillings for going down to percure said salt.

Voted that the committee apply to the town Treasurer for money to Bair the charges of teems.

At a subsequent meeting:

Voted that the committee Imployed to git the Salt take the same under their Cair and sell to each man as they think his portion is for the space of six months from the first of July 1775, and no longer. N. B. After the time heir prefixed said committee may sell the salt to any person or persons in town or out.

Having given some account of the proceedings at home, the principal events in the history of Ashburnham for the year 1775 remain as yet untold. The town, if remote from the early scenes of hostilities, bore an honorable part in the alarm at Lexington, the battle of Bunker Hill and the subsequent siege of Boston.

Thus far we have discovered some of the steps which mark the progress of public opinion. The evidence of a firmer faith and a more resolute purpose, leading to the sterner scenes of the Revolutionary struggle is at ready command. And yet the alacrity with which the inhabitants of Ashburnham responded to the alarm of war at the first call of their country was the simple and natural outgrowth of the resolute preparation which had been made during the past two years.

The spring of 1775 was unusually forward; the warm, sunny days of mid April had invited the husbandman to the labors of the field. But in the midst of a peaceful avocation, and attending this external appearance of security and composure, there was a strong undercurrent of suspense and anxiety. Neither the vernal sun nor the balmy air of spring could dissolve the portentous clouds which overhung the

political horizon. And now at a season of the year most suggestive of tranquillity and gladness, all remaining doubt was suddenly removed and all anticipations of an honorable peace were dispelled. The harsh notes of war and carnage resounded over the dying hope of a peaceful settlement of the public grievances. With unfinished furrows and fields half sown, the patriot farmer reversing the prophecy lay down the pruning-hooks for spears and quickly beat the plough-shares into swords. The ominous intelligence that the British were marching from Boston towards Lexington swiftly borne on the wings of alarm was proclaimed in Ashburnham in the afternoon of that historic day. To the signal guns came answering echoes from the surrounding hills, and before the reverberations quivering with alarm had faded in the distance, there came responsive shots from many homes. The town was quickly aroused. The patriots, arms in hand, were hurrying forward from every quarter of the town.

No intelligence of hostilities at this hour had been received. It was only known that the enemy were marching inward. The story of the slaughter of their brethren at Lexington and at Concord was then unknown, nor was it needed to call these men to arms. Under command of Captain Jonathan Gates, a company of thirty-eight men promptly responded to the call and marched that afternoon. Nor was this all. Through the following night the men from the remoter portions of the town responded to the alarm, and busy notes of preparation were constantly renewed. A second company of thirty-three men, under command of Captain Deliverance Davis, was organized. Early in the gray of the following morning they were on the march. The rolls preserve the names of those men, seventy-one in number, who responded thus to the alarm. Leaving homes and family with hasty

farewells, they hastened to the relief of their brethren, and some of them to the familiar scenes of their childhood and to the defence of the homes of their kindred.

The rapidity with which the alarm was spread over the country on the nineteenth of April, has excited surprise. It was not accidental, nor one of those hazard enterprises that sometimes apparently happen in a fortuitous manner. For weeks the committees of safety and correspondence had been preparing for just such an emergency; in many instances it had been arranged who should ride, and to whom deliver the message. At twilight many a vigilant patriot had carefully stabled and fed his fleetest horse, half in expectation that a summons to ride might come before the rising of another sun.

The public records of the town afford no information of the number or the names of these men who promptly responded to the alarm. If tradition was the only remaining source of information, the lists would remain uncertain and incomplete. The traditional statement that this town sent out one company which, on the receipt of intelligence that the affray was ended, returned home the same or the following day, has been quite generally accepted. Ashburnham soldiers in the Revolution did not acquit themselves in that manner. For once tradition shot beneath the mark, but has made ample amends in other fields of information. Fortunately, the muster rolls of these two companies are preserved in the State archives. If additional evidence is required it is not withheld. Among the papers of the late Deacon John C. Davis, a grandson of one of the commanders, is preserved a list of the men under the command of Captain Deliverance Davis. This list and the roll at the State House without exception are the same, and the personal statements of a few of the men will appear in another

connection. Both of the companies marched to Cambridge and there remained with the gathering army several days.

As previously stated, Captain Gates' company left Ashburnham on the afternoon of the alarm. Upon the muster roll, under the head of "Time when marched," there appears opposite every name "April 19." This company continued an organization until May 1, when it was disbanded. A few had previously returned home; a few came home when the company was disbanded and sixteen of them enlisted in Colonel Whitcomb's regiment and remained in the service until the close of the year. Captain Davis' company is credited with marching April 20. It was disbanded at Cambridge, April 30. Three from this company remained in the service. With the exception of three in Captain Davis' company and a few in Captain Gates' company, these men are credited with fifty-five miles' travel.

Capt Jonathan Gates' Muster Roll in Col John Whitcomb's Regiment of Militia Men who marched from Ashburnham on ye Alarm April 19th 1775.

Jonathan Gates, *Captain*
Amos Dickerson, *Lieutenant*
Ezra Atherton, *Lieutenant*

George Dana, *Sergeant*	Henry Gates
William Wilder, do	Samuel Joslin
Joseph Metcalf, do	Jonathan Warren Smith
Ebenezer Burgess, do	David Robinson
Daniel Hobart, *Corp'l*	Jacob Kiblinger
Peter Joslin, do	Henry Hall
Francis Lane, do	Amos Kindall
Joseph Stone, *Drummer*	Henry Winchester
Amos Lawrence	Samuel Willard
Phinehas Weatherbee	Philip Lock
Moses Russell	Aaron Samson
Nathaniel Parker	Samuel Salter

John Gates	John Whitney
Jonathan Winchester	Joshua Holt
Daniel Edson	Ebenezer Wood
Joseph Wilder	Philip Winter
Nathaniel Harris	David Clark, Jr.
Peter Osgood	

Capt. Deliverance Davis' Muster Roll in Col Asa Whitcomb's Regiment of Militia men who marched from Ashburnham on y^e^ Alarm April 19^th^ 1775.

Deliverance Davis, *Captain*
Ebenezer Conant, Jr., *Lieutenant*
John Conn, *2^d^ Lieutenant*

Oliver Stone, *Sergeant*	Nathan Melvin
John Adams, do	Nathaniel Hastings
Samuel Cutting, do	Samuel Mason
Shubuel Hobart, *Corp'l*	Ephraim Wetherbee
Timothy Wood, do	David Clark
Oliver Whitcomb, do	Isaac Blodgett
Elijah Edson, *Drummer*	Joshua Hemenway
Isaac Merriam	John Hall
Oliver Willard	John Kiblinger
Uriah Holt	John Putnam
William Whitcomb	Jacob Willard
William Benjamin	Joshua Holden
Jacob Constantine	Jonathan Taylor
Caleb Ward	Jonathan Taylor, Jr.
Enos Jones	Joseph Perry

Immediately following the affair at Lexington the Massachusetts committee of safety called out the militia. In an address to the several towns dated April 20, the committee urged them "to hasten and encourage by all possible means the enlistment of men for an army." "Our all," says the address, "is at stake. Death and devastation are the certain consequences of delay. Every moment is infinitely precious. An hour lost may deluge your country in

blood and entail perpetual slavery upon the few who may survive the carnage." An answering spirit animated the inhabitants of this town and as will appear a considerable number joined the army gathered around Boston.

In response to this appeal and in full sympathy with the sentiment of the colony the enlistments from this town were neither tardy nor few in number. It is probable that some enlisted at this time of whom no record has been found. The rolls are imperfect and there is no reason to presume that the following lists contain the names of all from this town who were in the service either at this time or at subsequent periods. The muster roll of the company of Captain David Wilder of Leominster in Colonel Whitcomb's regiment bears the names of sixty-eight men including officers. On one of the rolls of this company the residence of each man is stated. The following abstract contains only the Ashburnham men:

	DATE OF ENLISTMENT.
Jonathan Gates, *First Lieutenant*	April 25 1775
Francis Lane, *Sergeant*	" 26
Peter Joslin, "	" 26
Joshua Holt	" 26
Jacob Kiblinger	" 26
Philip Locke	" 26
David Robinson	" 26
Samuel Salter	" 26
Aaron Samson	" 26
Henry Hall	" 26
Henry Winchester	" 26
Samuel Willard	" 26
John Whitney	" 26
Ebenezer Wood	" 26
Philip Winter	" 26

David Clark, Jr.	April 26
Joshua Hemmenway	" 26
John Farmer	" 26
Joseph Smith, Jr.	" 27
Jonathan Gates, Jr.	May 29
Isaac Blodget	July 17
John Locke	" 17
Jacob Winter	" 17
Daniel Edson	" 17

The men participating in the siege of Boston remained in the service until the close of the year and some of them remained a few weeks longer or until new recruits came forward to fill their place. In the same service were David Clark, Sen., in the company of Captain Longley in Colonel Whitcomb's regiment, Uriah Holt, in Captain Burt's company and Thomas Dutton in Captain Wyman's company of Colonel Prescott's regiment.

Twenty-three men from Ashburnham participated in the battle of Bunker Hill. Several others who subsequently removed to this town shared the danger and glory of that memorable engagement, but at the time were residents of other towns. Of these, twenty were in Captain Wilder's company and the remaining three were Clark, Holt and Dutton who were named in a former paragraph. It is probable that Colonel Whitcomb's regiment, as an organization, was not engaged in the battle of Bunker Hill but it is certain, and the fact is undisputed, that the company of Captain Wilder was warmly engaged on that occasion.

It was this year that the first summer boarders arrived in Ashburnham. We do not know their names nor the families that entertained them. In accordance with stipulations between the committee of safety and General Gage at Boston, many families of that environed town were suffered to

leave unmolested and by the committee were distributed among the several towns of the colony for temporary support. The number of these worthy poor assigned to Ashburnham was twelve.

At the close of the year, 1775, a simple form of State government was in operation, controlled by a house of representatives and an executive council, and judicial courts were duly organized. This form of government was crude and untried. A healthy public sentiment and vigilance, tempered with prudence, were the main protection of the people. The summer of this year had been extremely hot and dry, and the slender harvests occasioned much anxiety and alarm for the future. This condition of affairs, the absence of many of the heads of families in the army, and the extreme solicitude experienced by all concerning the issues of the war, cast a deepening gloom over the trials and anxieties of the closing year.

1776. The year 1776 was an eventful one. The fortunes of the army were not decisive in any degree, yet the patriotism and bold faith of the colonists at no time shone forth more conspicuously. The record of the year will afford ample proof that the inhabitants of Ashburnham gave an unqualified adhesion to the more comprehensive plans and the deeper sentiment which animated the colonies. The war commencing on the plea of defence now changed to a war for independence. It was no longer a domestic strife. The patriots ceased to be rebels and a civil war was odious to many. They were now ready for revolution and by the Declaration of Independence, in which they asserted their right and title to all the attributes of a nation, their position among the nations and their attitude to England were suddenly changed. Heretofore, the proceedings of the conventions were recommendations and appeals to

the patriotism of the people; now such enactments assumed the dignity and majesty of law, and, aided by a spirit of obedience which pervaded the colonies, there was no failure of orderly conduct nor any hiatus in the municipal government of the people. Through radical changes and for a season through the failure of any organic law, the town of Ashburnham held meetings, chose officers and levied taxes with no authority except a loyal public sentiment.

In May of this year the General Court passed an order calling upon the people to express an opinion concerning a formal and entire separation from Great Britain. It was not presumed that a reconciliation was either probable or possible, but an explicit expression of opinion was suggested by this action. On the twenty-fourth day of June a warrant for a town meeting was issued and four days later the inhabitants of Ashburnham were assembled to deliberate upon a grave and momentous question. The article and the vote are self-explanatory.

Article 2. To see if the Inhabitants of said Town are willing to stand by the Honourable Congress in declaring the Colonies Independent of the Kingdom of Great Britain with their lives and fortunes to Support them in the measure.

June 28, 1776. Pursuant to the above warrant the town being met made choice of Mr. Elisha Coolidge moderator.

Voted. We the Inhabitants of the Town of Ashburnham, in Town meeting assembled being sensible of the disadvantage of having any further connections with the Kingdom of Great Britain and are willing to brake off all connections with them and it is our Resolution that if the Honorable Congress shall declare the Colonies Independent of the Kingdom of Great Britain that we the said Inhabitants will stand by them with our lives and fortunes to support them in the measure.

The foregoing motion being put was voted unanimously.

Soon after this vote the Declaration of Independence was received in printed form. It was read from the pulpit and transcribed at length upon the records of the town.

At the annual meeting the town chose Jonathan Taylor, John Willard, Jonathan Samson, Abijah Joslin and Ebenezer Conant, Jr., a committee of correspondence. The only remaining action of this meeting relating to the war was a vote "to abate the soldiers highway rates for the last year." The selectmen, upon whom devolved many duties concerning the prosecution of the war, were William Whitcomb, John Kiblinger and Oliver Willard.

In connection with these proceedings the service in the field for the year was the natural sequence of the spirit pervading the town. The company of Captain David Wilder, containing twenty-four men from Ashburnham which participated in the siege of Boston, was discharged on account of expiration of term of service near the close of the year 1775. Without returning home Jonathan Gates, Jr., and possibly others, reënlisted and served an additional term of three months. About this time the army became so depleted by expiration of terms of enlistment that a call was issued for additional troops, and to maintain the army while the new recruits were being enlisted there was also a call for men for a short term of service. For the service last named this town furnished three men who enlisted for six weeks and were assigned to the right wing of the army at Roxbury. They were Jonathan Samson, Jr., Joseph Metcalf and his son, Ezekiel Shattuck Metcalf, in Captain Hill's company of Harvard. In an affidavit of the widow of Ezekiel Shattuck Metcalf, in support of her application for a pension in 1839, she alleges there were four men from this town in that company. Her recollection may be correct but no record of the remaining soldier has been dis-

covered. In the company of Captain Rand of Westminster and in the same service was David Merriam who enlisted for three months in January of this year. When Washington withdrew the army to New York he left at Boston only three regiments of militia. Massachusetts promptly raised three additional regiments for the defence of the harbor. In these regiments, serving under General Ward, Ashburnham was honorably represented.

Jonathan Samson, Jr., after completing the enlistment mentioned in a former paragraph, joined the army again in July and served in the company of Captain Manasseh Sawyer of Sterling in Colonel Dyke's regiment. With his company he was engaged four and one-half months in constructing forts at Dorchester Heights. Again in December he enlisted into the same company and served three months at Dorchester. In the last service he was joined by David Merriam, Ebenezer Bennett Davis and Daniel Putnam. In Captain Warner's company of Colonel Josiah Whitney's regiment are found the familiar names of Uriah Holt and Thomas Ross and in Colonel Dyke's regiment was David Taylor. Jacob Kiblinger and John Hall served two months in the summer of this year in the company of Captain Woods in Colonel Converse's regiment, which for a time was stationed at Dobb's Ferry and at Tarrytown and constituted a part of the main army under Washington. In the same company was Abraham Gibson who then resided in Fitchburg, but subsequently removed to this town where he resided many years.

In the company of Captain Sargent of Princeton in Colonel Josiah Whitney's regiment from May to July were John Kiblinger, William Ward and Jacob Rodiman. They were stationed near Boston and for a short time were with the army in Rhode Island in an unsuccessful attack upon the

British. In the same company was Charles Hastings who enlisted from Princeton but soon after removed to this town.

David Stedman served one enlistment in Captain Fiske's company in Colonel Brooks' regiment, and Nicholas Whiteman enlisted December 8 in Captain Alden's company, Colonel Mitchell's regiment.

Three soldiers sealed their devotion to the cause of their country with their lives. These were Peter Joslin, aged about twenty-five years, who died on his homeward journey from the army; Philip Winter, aged twenty-two years, who died in the service, and Daniel Hobart, aged twenty-seven years, who was killed at the battle of White Plains, October 28, 1776. Young Hobart enlisted in June and was assigned to Colonel Coleman's regiment which joined the army under Washington. In this engagement with the enemy he was wounded in the thigh with a musket ball and left upon the field. His retiring comrades beheld the enemy approach and beat him with clubbed muskets.

Dr. Abraham Lowe and David Wallis then of Lunenburg, Isaac Whitmore of Leominster, Cyrus Fairbanks of Harvard, Reuben Townsend of Shrewsbury, Isaac and William Stearns of Billerica, Jonas Rice of Sterling, Reuben Rice of Lancaster, Joshua Fletcher of Westford, Oliver and Jabez Marble of Stow, all of whom subsequently removed to Ashburnham, were in the service some portion of the year.

1777. The spring of this eventful year was a season of deepest gloom and depression. To this time the American army had been engaged in a defensive warfare and very frequently had been found unable to cope with the disciplined and well-equipped forces of the enemy. Very frequently had the American soldier been obliged to retreat from scenes of courage and heroism worthy of victory. The discouragements of the hour were cumulative. To test the endurance

and faith of the colonies came the depressing intelligence of the progress of the haughty army under Burgoyne in its advance from Canada to join the main army at New York. Apparently, a further invasion of the country was inevitable and especially was New England menaced with instant danger. The inhabitants of this town evinced no evidence of terror or dismay but calmly proceeded to adopt defensive measures and to raise their full proportion of men. The activity of the State authorities and the generous response of the Massachusetts and New Hampshire militia at this critical moment are important events in the history of the American Revolution; but it is only the part borne by Ashburnham that appeals for expression in this narrative. The number of enlistments in this town during the year was about one hundred. Some of these men were at Stillwater and Saratoga in the gallant army of General Gates which eventually crushed and annihilated the proud army of Burgoyne, so recently flushed with the hope of spoils and devastation. The latter they realized, but from a standpoint directly opposed to their lofty expectations.

Preliminary to an account of the enlistments for the year some reference should be made to the action of the town and the home trials of the year. Recognizing efficient service, and possibly as an encouragement to their successors in office to pursue a similar policy in the conduct of town affairs, the town in March voted "to allow the selectmen additional compensation for extraordinary services the past year" in a special appropriation of "twenty-four shillings for going to Boston in their country's service." In May, William Whitcomb was chosen "to represent the town in the great and general court to be held in Boston the 28th day of May current." This record presents an early employment of the high-sounding and ponderous title that has flattered a legisla-

ture with the weight of its own dignity. It was this session of the General Court which submitted a proposed constitution for the acceptance of the people and which was rejected by a great majority early the following year. The selectmen this year were Samuel Wilder, Deacon John Willard, Jonathan Samson, Jonathan Taylor and Captain Abijah Joslin. The committee of correspondence and inspection were Samuel Foster, William Wilder, Enos Jones, Joseph Metcalf and Francis Lane. Expressive of the sentiment of the town on the subject a committee, consisting of Captain Thomas Adams, George Dana, John Conn, Captain Jonathan Gates and William Wilder, was appointed to remonstrate the Legislature against the proposed measure of calling in the issue of paper money. Captain Adams named in this vote was the father of the centenarian, John Adams. The elder Adams removed to this town, 1775, and very soon after the alarm at Lexington, where he resided, until his death in 1802. If this statement is opposed by other records, it is nevertheless correct. The first reference to a depreciated currency upon the record of this town is found in a vote late in the year "to allow Rev. John Cushing £33⅓ on account of the fall of money."

It is impossible at this late period to name all the men of Ashburnham who served in the army this year. As is well known, a portion of the muster rolls were never filed among the State papers and others have been destroyed by fire. The roll here given, although imperfect, is highly creditable to the town, while every one will join in a regret that any name has been lost from the record of patriotic service. Among the Massachusetts forces sent to the defence of Rhode Island in 1777, was the regiment commanded by Colonel Josiah Whitney, which included at least five men from this town. They were John Kiblinger, Jacob Rodi-

man, Samuel Metcalf, Jonathan Coolidge and William Ward. The service was rendered in the early part of the year and before this regiment was sent to New York, as the mileage for five of these men due from the State was allowed to the town in June. From other evidence it appears that these men were in service four months. In the summer of this year, intelligence of the fall of Crown Point and Ticonderoga and the steady and triumphant advance of General Burgoyne created a widespread sentiment of the most painful apprehension. Early in July General Schuyler, while retreating before the enemy, issued a proclamation calling to his immediate assistance the militia of New England and New York, and aroused by the danger of the situation, multitudes obeyed the call. While men for this service were being recruited in Ashburnham, there came the startling intelligence that a detachment of the enemy had invaded the soil of Vermont and were pressing on toward the western counties of Massachusetts. The town immediately was in arms, and Captain Jonathan Gates, with twenty or thirty men from this town, immediately marched to the relief of their brethren. So prompt was the action of the authorities, and so responsive was the spirit manifested by the people, that all, or nearly every town in this vicinity, sent an independent company of men who did not delay for regimental organization, but each little company, independent of superior officers, conducted a brief campaign on personal responsibility. These men were not mustered nor organized into regiments and never received pay nor rations for their service. This company, with others from this vicinity, was marched to Charlemont, and was there held to await information of the progress and probable course of the enemy. Learning that the American army under General St. Clair had retreated into New York, and that the probable theatre of war had been removed beyond

their vicinity, they were dismissed and after an absence of three weeks returned to their homes. There were no muster rolls of these men, and, with few exceptions, their names have faded beyond recall. It was an anonymous campaign. In the same expedition were forty-eight men from Westminster, under command of Captain Elisha Jackson; Captain Thurlo led a company of twenty-two men from Fitchburg. Lunenburg was represented by Captain Carlisle and a number of men under his command. In the latter company was Dr. Abraham Lowe, later, the well-known physician of this town.

The few names of the Ashburnham company that can now be ascertained are Jonathan Samson, Jr., William Ward, John Adams, David Merriam and probably Jacob Constantine, John Kiblinger and Nicholas Whiteman. Scarcely had these men returned to their homes and the labor of their fields before they were again called into service. The annihilation of the army under Burgoyne was a preconcerted effort and this call upon the militia was a part of a well-matured plan. Catching the spirit of the undertaking, the men came promptly forward "to drive the Hessians into the woods." Captain Gates was commander also of this expedition and in the rapid organization of the army, his company was assigned to serve in connection with a New Hampshire regiment commanded by Colonel Benjamin Bellows of Walpole. The company, quickly enlisted and hurriedly equipped, was marched through Charlemont, Williamstown and thence to Bennington, Vermont, arriving there two days after the victory of General Stark. Here they were permitted to behold the prisoners there confined and guarded in the meeting-house, and thus stimulated by a view of the fruits of valor, were hurried on to Fort Edward in New York, where a part of them remained until after the surren-

der of Burgoyne, which occurred October 17, and some of them were transferred to other companies and participated in the battles of Stillwater and Saratoga. The number of men from Ashburnham in the second expedition commanded by Captain Jonathan Gates was between twenty and thirty. Only a part of their names has been discovered. They are William Ward, Nicholas Whiteman, Jacob Constantine, John Adams, Jonathan Samson, David Merriam, Jonathan Gates, Jr., John Kiblinger, Ezekiel S. Metcalf, and Mr. Gates, a brother of Captain Jonathan Gates.

To avoid the inconvenience experienced during the preceding two years, on account of the short terms of enlistment, and to create a more stable and a better disciplined army, orders were given early in 1777 to establish the regiments on the continental plan and recruit their decimated ranks with men enlisted for three years, or during the war. For this purpose the quota of Ashburnham was sixteen, and an earnest effort was made to supply the required number. Thirteen men enlisted and were mustered into service May 26, 1777, for three years, and the town or individuals hired the three remaining men, Francis Lee of Pepperell, Andrew Foster of Andover, and Josiah Fessenden of Boston, to complete the quota.

The men from Ashburnham whose names are deeply inscribed in the tablets of the history of the town, were Ebenezer Bennett Davis, David Clark, David Clark, Jr., John Winter, Thomas Pratt, Samuel Mason, John White, Paul Sawyer, Jacob Lock, Thomas Ross, Joshua Holden, Timothy Johnson and Adam Rodiman.

A considerable number of other men from this town was in the service this year. There are many incidental references which establish the fact, but do not reveal the names of the soldiers. In August this year there was a

draft in this town for men to serve three months, but the number of men required has not been ascertained. It appears that David Chaffin was drafted at this time and was assigned to Captain Nathaniel Carter's company in Colonel Cushing's regiment and joined the army under General Gates. On account of sickness he was discharged and arrived home, November 1, 1777.

1778. The new year opened with a town meeting at which the town voted that they "were not willing to send any relief to the Continental soldiers now in the army." The natural construction of this language unfairly represents the prevailing sentiment and the real intent of the town. It was the intention of the town, as appears from other records, that the needs of the soldiers beyond their stipulated pay and bounty should be left with their friends and the generosity of individuals, which had proved adequate in the past and were confidently invoked in this instance. Present in this meeting, perhaps, was Samuel Metcalf, then a youth of sixteen years, who had but recently returned from a long and perilous journey to the army, bearing clothing to his brother Ezekiel to supply a loss caused by the burning of his tent which had left him destitute. With such evidence of the thoughtful care of the soldier in the field, with the hum of the wheel, the click of the loom and the busy needle in every home, there was present in this meeting every assurance that the individual and not the town could best respond to this call upon their charity.

In May of this year, the town approved of the Articles of Confederation proposed by the Continental Congress. The vote was decisive. The records assert "there was but one against it," but the name and motive of this dissenting voice are not revealed. In the midst of the weighty responsibilities resting upon our worthy fathers, perplexed with the demands

of war and the problems of new forms of government, the town eloquently assert their attentive care of the family of the soldier in a vote "to help Timothy Johnson's wife who is in needy circumstances, so that she may be made comfortable."

Timothy Johnson is found in the list of men enlisting the previous year for three years and leaving, doubtless with confidence, his wife and their three babes to the considerate care of his townsmen.

To the husbandman the summer of 1778 was one of great discouragements. The season was extremely dry and the product of the field was small and unremunerative. The partial failure of the crops was keenly felt at a season when the product of the farm was the only means to meet the heavy demands for money and provisions to carry on the war. To give poignancy to their despondency the currency depreciated so rapidly in value that financial ruin seemed instant and inevitable. During the year 1778, the equivalent of a unit of money decreased from one-third to less than one-sixth of its nominal value. One assessment of taxes followed another in rapid succession, until the constable, who was also collector of taxes, only left the door to soon return with renewed demands, and creditors, beholding every dollar of their dues fade in value from month to month, were importunate and peremptory in their demands for immediate payment. In the midst of these depressing surroundings at home came many assurances of amended fortunes.

During the past few months a disheartened and retreating army, receiving timely reënforcement, had fought several successful battles which had completely annihilated a proud and invading army. The patriots had taught the disciplined and well-equipped soldiery of Europe that they were their equals, both in the open field and in the strategems of war.

They had awakened a renewed confidence in themselves which imparted the strength of cohesion and of discipline to the patriot army. The seat of war was removed to the South, and the calls for troops were less frequent and imperative. The sudden and tantalizing alarms which had characterized the preceding year, giving the minute-men but little freedom from actual service or solitude when at home, for many months were not repeated. In addition to all these flattering omens, which encouraged hope to triumph over despondency, the most enlivening hopes were associated with the alliance with France, and her proffers of assistance in the prosecution of the war. A firmer faith in the success of their cause was everywhere manifested, until many were persuaded to believe that the war was substantially at an end. And yet amid these cheering omens another vial was being opened whose bitterness soon drenched the land; only an oasis had been reached, and not the fruitful soil beyond the desert sands; the clouds were not breaking, but only shifting into new shapes, to again inundate the land with darker days and greater trials.

The record of the preceding year left the continental soldiers from this town with the army under the immediate command of Washington. It will be remembered that these men enlisted for three years. Jacob Lock and Samuel Mason having died the remaining fourteen shared the suffering of a winter of unusual severity at Valley Forge. In the spring of this year with more than two years of rugged service before them they followed the fortunes of Washington in the extreme heat and dangers of Monmouth and in the summer campaign near the city of New York. In the late autumn they were marched to Middlebrook, New Jersey, and there erected huts for the winter. The new recruits this year are found in several regiments and in as many branches of the

service, and there is ample evidence that several were drafted or enlisted in the spring and summer whose names and service cannot now be stated.

The men that were being enlisted to recruit the decimated ranks of the continental regiments were so few in number that the General Court called for two thousand men to serve in these regiments for the term of nine months. For this service three men from this town volunteered or were drafted. William Ward enlisted in the month of June and was assigned to Colonel Marshall's regiment, from which he was discharged March 7, 1778, and about the same time and under the same requisition, Jonathan Benjamin and Benjamin Clark entered the service and were mustered at Fishkill, New York. The muster rolls describe Benjamin as seventeen years of age, five feet and six inches in stature and of light complexion. Clark, the roll alleges, was at this time sixteen years of age, only five feet and two inches in height and light complexion. Young Clark was not a tall soldier, and as he lived to enlist again, there is license for the presumption that his head was carried below the line of greatest danger. Having filled this quota, the selectmen express their relief in a letter to the General Court.

To the Hon^ble^ Council & House of Representatives of the State Massachusetts Bay.

These may certify that the Town of Ashburnham have complied with the resolve of the Court of the 20^th^ of April 1778 last in raising Continental men and the men marched when called for.

Ashburnham Aug 24^th^ 1778.

OLIVER WILLARD
JOHN CONN } Selectmen.

Worcester ss Aug 20^th^ 1778.

personally appeared Capt Jonathan Gates of Ashburnham and made oath to the above certificate before me.

SAMUEL WILDER
Town Clerk.

Reference is made in the following letter to a subject of which the result cannot be stated. The fact that Benjamin Clark was eventually mustered into service at Fishkill for nine months, and at that time the father, David Clark, had two full years to serve, would indicate that he was not accepted as a substitute for his father.

ASHBORNHAM June 01 y^{e} 1778.

this is to sortify that Jonathan Benjeman has ingaged in the continental sarvis nine monts and Likewise Benjeman Clark in the Rom of his father David Clark, he being a man in years and I should be glad if you would except him in his romm.

JONATHAN GATES, Captain.

To Mr Worshbon the superentendent for the County of Worcester.

In the summer of this year, a combined attack, by land and water, upon the British army at Newport, in Rhode Island, was projected. An army raised from the militia of New England was sent to reënforce General Sullivan, and to coöperate with the French fleet. Calls were also made this year for men to serve in defence of Boston and the military stores deposited there. In the former service there were at least four men from this town. They were enlisted or drafted in June to serve the remainder of the year. They were assigned to the company of Captain Benjamin Edgell in Colonel John Jacob's regiment, which was a part of the army under General Sullivan. They arrived home the first week in January, 1779. The descriptive list of the men from Ashburnham is of interest.

NAME.	TIME OF ENLISTMENT.	TRAVEL.	TIME OF SERVICE.	WAGES.
Ezekiel Metcalf,	June 25th,	100 miles,	6 mos 12 days,	£29-15-3
John Chamberlain,	June 24th,	100 "	6 " 13 "	29-18-4
David Chaffin,	June 25th,	100 "	6 " 12 "	29-15-3
Simon Rodiman,	June 26th,	80 "	6 " 11 "	29- 5-8

To meet the requirements for service at Boston, a number of men was drafted or recruited to serve three months. Among them were Jonathan Samson, Jr., Nicholas Whiteman and John Hall, who were assigned to the company of Captain John White of Lancaster, and stationed at Castle island. In service at this time and near Boston, were David Steadman and William Ward. The latter served only one month and was employed at Prospect Hill in guarding prisoners, the remains of Burgoyne's army. From this service he returned in season to enlist in Colonel Marshall's regiment, as stated in a former paragraph.

Ashburnham was now required to furnish its proportion of clothing for the army. A resolve was adopted by the General Court, March 13, 1778, requiring each town in the State to furnish as many shirts, pairs of shoes and stockings, as would be equal to one-seventh part of all its male inhabitants. These articles were ordered to be collected in each county and forwarded to the army by the county agent, whereupon each soldier was to receive one shirt, one pair of shoes and one pair of stockings "as a present from the people of the State." Under this resolve, the quota of Ashburnham was immediately filled. If the quota of this town was seventeen, more shirts were forwarded than was required, but it is probable that the excess of shirts was intended as an equivalent for a deficiency of shoes and stockings. If this supposition is correct, the quota of Ashburnham was twenty, which represents that at this time there were one hundred and forty male inhabitants in this town. The following letter of the selectmen is a part of this proceeding:

To Mr. John Wait Agent and Receiver of Clothing for the County of Worcester

Sir these are to inform you that we have complied with the

resolve of Cort last sent in providing clothing for the solgers. we have provided

Seventeen pr of Shoes cost £3 pr pr £51
and seventeen pr Stockings £1 :16-0 pr pair £30=12=0
and twenty-seven Shirts at £1 :16 apiece £48=12=0

and as we have received no furder orders Since the Resolve of the general Cort concerning the Clothing we do send them by Deac Samuel Wilder to you to be Recd as our part of the clothing for this time

Sum total
for Clothing
Ashburnham Sept 16-1778 £130–4–0

So we remain your friends & Humble Serv.

OLIVER WILLARD
JOHN CONN
WILLM BENJAMIN
} Selectmen.

To the Honsble Corts Committee we leave the Troble of Colecting and Cost of Transporting 37 miles to the agent to your Honors Judgment.

This account was audited June 5, 1779. The price of the shoes was reduced to forty-eight shillings a pair and £5–11–0 was allowed for transportation thirty-seven miles.

Concerning the record of one of the continental soldiers of the town, an important fact remains as yet untold. Adam Rodiman deserted. If he had been a man of diminutive stature, like Benjamin Clark, it might reasonably be presumed that he was temporarily overlooked and the record made before the oversight was noted, but he is described as twenty-three years of age, six feet high, dark eyes and hair and by occupation a blacksmith. Whether he repented and returned, whether he was returned by force without repentance, or whether he neither returned nor repented, does not appear in the records. It is known, however, that after the war he resided several years in this town. Ah! Adam,

hadst thou known that one hundred and more years after thy desertion of the post of duty, this act of thine would be recalled, that the faithful historian who records with impartial pen the deeds of the just and the unjust, giving at once to the principal inhabitant and most lowly citizen his fair measure of censure or praise as his life and service are revealed in the records and traditions of the town; hadst thou known and realized all this, thou wouldst have remained to share the trial and dangers bravely endured by thy heroic comrades, and wouldst have conquered a cowardice that gives an only stain to the ensign armorial of the good old town of Ashburnham. But, alas! like thy progenitor, whose name thou bore, thou too didst fall.

1779. The theatre of the war having been transferred to the Southern States, the call for men was less imperative than in the years preceding. At the same time the military spirit of the people waned with the removal of danger from the borders of New England. If the number of men was comparatively small, the labor in procuring them was no less onerous than in former years. In accordance with a resolve of the General Court, passed June 9, eight men were raised in July to recruit the continental army. Three of these men to serve nine months were mustered with the following description:

	ft.
Ebenezer Conant, age 36, height	5—9
Jacob Constantine, " 27, "	5—9
John Kiblinger, " 24, "	6—0

The roll also announced that all of them were of dark complexion. Many of the continental men who entered in 1777 were in Colonel Greaton's regiment at this time. Succeeding the repeated failures in the past, a successful attempt to dislodge the enemy from Rhode Island was made

this year. In this service Ashburnham was represented by at least five men who were drafted in July and served six months. They were marched under command of Sergeant Stone to Providence, and at the close of the campaign were discharged at Newport. A part or all of them were assigned to Captain Thomas Fiske's company in Colonel Tyler's or Colonel Jackson's regiment. The names which have been found from nearly as many sources are as follows: Sergeant Joseph Stone, Jonathan Gates, Isaac Merriam, William Winchester and Jonathan Winchester. In the autumn David Merriam took the place of his brother Isaac Merriam. In the early autumn, Ashburnham was required to send four men, styled fatigue-men, to serve three months under Captains Henry and Wilson at Castle William and Governor's island. The men engaged in this service were David Chaffin, Edward Whitmore, Nathaniel Kendall and David Samson. Daniel Bond of this town was in the service as fatigue-man at this time, but probably did not enlist at the time the others were recruited, and William Ward served three months this year at West Point in a company commanded by Captain Burt of Harvard. At the close of the season the Northern army, which included the continental soldiers from this town, retired into winter quarters, — one division at West Point, New York, and the other at Morristown, New Jersey.

At the annual meeting, Isaac Merriam, Nathaniel Harris and Daniel Putnam were chosen a committee of correspondence. The selectmen were John Conn, Oliver Willard and Amos Dickerson. William Whitcomb was again selected to represent the town in the General Court at this session, which did not adjourn until October. He was permitted to join with his associates in a fruitless attempt to regulate by law the price of articles of merchandise. If such legislation

at all times and under all circumstances has proved futile, in this instance the legislators recognized the exigencies of the hour and manifested more courage than wisdom in the advancement of remedial measures. The ineffectual measures of the Legislature were supplemented by the recommendations of county conventions. The convention which assembled in Worcester August 11, proposed a schedule of prices for many articles of merchandise, and with great earnestness and solicitude, recommended the people to adopt them in the conduct of their business.

In this proceeding the convention essayed to effect by appeal that which the Legislature failed to accomplish by the force of law. The town of Ashburnham promptly adopted the recommendations of the convention and chose Samuel Wilder, Captain Jonathan Gates, Jacob Harris, Moses Tottingham and Francis Lane a committee to encourage the people, and through the force of a firm, public sentiment compel them to adhere for a time to the stated prices. In these proceedings the necessities of the people were demanding relief. But the love of gain, the insatiable greed of speculation and the personal interest of the few who had the ability to profit by the necessities of the many rendered all these measures ineffectual. In February the General Court submitted to the people the proposition of calling a convention for the purpose of forming a State Constitution. The town of Ashburnham voted May 21, "That this State have a new form of Government as soon as may be, and also that our representative vote to have a State Convention called for that purpose."

On an article in the warrant for the May meeting, "To see if the Town will allow Mr. Jonathan Samson and Mrs. Hemmenway for two small Deer sent in to the service," the decision was in the negative. The same fate attended a

proposition to pay Deliverance Davis "for going to Albany for to carry cloathing to the soldiers." If these decisions of the town fail to satisfy the sensitive nature of loyal descendants, they can be consoled with the fact that there could not have been a great sum of money in the treasury, and any action on these points was quite immaterial so long as the soldiers had and enjoyed both the deer and the clothing. Having previously chosen a committee, consisting of Jacob Harris, Captain Jonathan Gates, Lieutenant Amos Dickerson, John Adams and Francis Lane, to estimate and equalize the service in the army of each man in Ashburnham, the town adopted the report of this committee August 30. That report if it had been preserved would have afforded the outline of a more accurate history of Ashburnham during the Revolution than can now be written.

Thursday, December 9, 1779, was a day of thanksgiving in all the States. The observance of this day is seldom noticed in history, but there are many evidences at hand to establish the fact that in many places there were religious exercises, and that our fathers, burdened with the weighty problems of the hour, and oppressed with the existing state of public affairs, did make a solemn effort to find occasion for thankfulness on this memorable day. The journal of Isaac Stearns informs us that the day was observed in Ashburnham, and that Mr. Cushing preached from the text: "The works of the Lord are great, sought out of all them that have pleasure therein."

1780. The record of death continues. Again the open ranks of the continental regiments are the silent oracles of their valor. In prompt response to renewed acquisition for men, seven recruits from Ashburnham were mustered into the service for six months at Leicester. With other recruits they were marched from Springfield July 2, under command

of Captain Phinehas Parker. These men were styled new levies, and were assigned to the Massachusetts regiments already in the field and stationed at West Point. The names of these recruits are found upon the descriptive lists on file in the State archives.

NAME.	AGE.	STATURE.	COMPLEXION.
Samuel Metcalf	19	6—2	light
David Chaffin	18	5—9	light
Edward Whitmore	16	5—6	light
Elijah Mason	19	5—5	light
Simeon Rodiman	18	5—4	dark
Isaac Merriam	18	5—2	light
Jacob Rodiman	20	—	—

On another roll crediting this service to Ashburnham, is the name of Nathaniel Breed, but there is no other evidence that he was from this town. The service of these men and others in the continental army at this time covers an important chapter of Revolutionary history. They were with the Northern army at the time of the treason of Arnold and the execution of André. In an application for a pension, David Chaffin alleges he was one of the guards and was within ten feet of André when he was executed. Isaac Merriam says he was in New Jersey when André was hanged and when Arnold attempted to deliver up West Point, and afterwards marched back to West Point and was there discharged at the expiration of six months. Edward Whitmore was in a detached service for a time but joined his regiment a short time before he was discharged. He says he recollects Arnold's treason and saw Major André executed. In July there was another requisition for men to serve three months. Jonathan Samson, Jr., Andrew Winter, Jr., and Reuben Rice, who removed to Ashburnham this year, entered the service and also served at West Point.

In the summer of this year, the men who enlisted for three years came home at different times in the order of their discharge from the companies in which they had served. On the arrival of each little band, the pastor read their names the following Sabbath and offered the prayer of grateful thanks to Almighty God for their preservation from the dangers of war and their safe return to the avocations of peace. John White was probably discharged on account of disability the previous year. He continued his residence here and became an inhabitant of Gardner when that town was incorporated.

The selectmen for 1780 were Samuel Wilder, Isaac Merriam and Francis Lane. For a committee of correspondence, Captain Deliverance Davis, Stephen Randall and Jonathan Samson were selected and the town also made choice of Captain Deliverance Davis, Levi Whitney and Amos Lawrence to hire the soldiers for the ensuing year. The vote of this town upon the adoption of a State Constitution was an emphatic expression of approval and is mentioned in another chapter. In September, the civilian and the soldier, reaping the early fruits of the war, cast the first vote of Ashburnham for State officers chosen by the people, and at the same time Samuel Wilder was chosen as the last representative under the temporary form of government.

The winter of 1779–80 was one of unusual severity. The men in Ashburnham brought wood for their daily fire upon their backs, and the brooks and springs being congealed by frost, a scarcity of water aggravated the discomforts of an inclement winter. The extreme cold and deep snow of that season were the theme of frequent remark as long as that generation endured.

1781. The selectmen for this year were Jacob Harris, Hezekiah Corey and Enos Jones. For a committee of correspondence, the town selected Samuel Cutting, Timothy Fisher and Henry Winchester. At the same meeting in which these officers were selected, while struggling with the burdens of the Revolution and at an hour when their burdens were most onerous, the inhabitants of the town were prepared to direct their attention to other questions and to give a serious thought to a proper observance of the Sabbath. There was an article in the warrant for this meeting, "to see if the town will pass any vote to prevent travelling on the Sabbath." The succeeding article was the one of set form which appeared in the annual warrant for many years: "to see if the town will let swine run at large the ensuing year." As would rationally be expected of our devoted worthies, they voted to put every legal restraint upon men and proffered the freedom of the town to the swine.

If a smaller number of men was required for the army this year, they were procured with increased effort and under great financial embarrassment. While the three years' men were being raised, there was an intermediate call for men to recruit the army while the enlistments for a longer time were slowly progressing. These men were more easily procured. In June Corporal Phinehas Hemenway, Jonathan Merriam and William Ward enlisted. They were assigned to Captain Sibley's company in Colonel Drury's regiment and were discharged the last of November. This was the seventh enlistment of William Ward. With the close of the preceding year came a call for more men to serve three years in the continental army. The town, embarrassed by the depreciated currency which had nearly become worthless, and by their inability to offer anything more substantial than a promise, passed the following vote

as an encouragement to any who might be prevailed upon to enlist: "Voted that each man that will engage to serve in the army for three years shall have eighteen head of three years old cattle given him when his time is out, and if he be discharged in two years then said cattle are to be but two years old or if he serve but one year they are to be but one year old, all to be of middling size." In other words, the soldier was to receive a bounty of eighteen calves and the town was to keep them of middling size as long as the soldier remained in the service. The vote is an apt illustration of the straits to which our worthy fathers were driven in the solution of the financial problems which attended their daily lives and official labors. The cattle bounty was not favorably received. The proposition savored of veal. The town could not retract its step and again offer a bounty in currency, for that in the mean time had utterly failed. There could be no failure in the end. The originators of the calf project are again found equal to the emergency. They called to their aid in alluring their fellow-townsmen to enlist, the click and gleam of silver and gold. They offered each man who would enlist for three years, ninety pounds lawful money as it was rated in 1774. There was substance in this proposal. True, the tender was not necessarily in specie, but it was of a known and absolute value and equivalent to three hundred dollars. This vote was adopted in February and two months later five men were mustered into the service for the term of three years. All of them were described as of light complexion.

David Clark	24 yrs of age	5 feet 9 inches in stature
Jonas Benjamin	19 " " "	5 " 10 "
John Coolidge	17 " " "	5 " 3 "
James Ledget	27 " " "	5 " 5 "
John Mar—(blurred)	29 " " "	5 " 7 "

In August following the committee was instructed "to hire the two three years men that were still wanted on the best terms they can." Near the close of the year the men were procured.

Peter Rodiman, age 16, height 4 feet 11 inches, enlisted December 9. A boy of that age and stature enlisting for three years might be expected to look pale, but the muster rolls assert that at the time of engagement, he was of dark complexion. The other man was our old acquaintance, Benjamin Clark, who has added two inches to his stature since his former entrance into the service. One week after the enlistment of Rodiman, the other name was added to the muster rolls. Benjamin Clark, age 20 years, height 5 feet 6 inches, complexion light, and occupation, farmer. This was the last enlistment from Ashburnham. At the close of the war, young Clark returned to this town and in 1787 removed to Reading, Vermont. The three years' men were called for in resolve of the General Court adopted December 2, 1780. The call was for four thousand two hundred and forty men and the quota of this town was seven. It has appeared that more than a year elapsed before the town was able to secure all the men. Eventually the General Court took note of the delinquency and imposed a fine amounting to four hundred and twenty-eight pounds and five shillings. In the mean time the town had fulfilled the demand and petitioned the Legislature to remit the fine, which request was granted:

To the Honourable Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled:

The Petition of William Whitcomb in behalf of The Town of Ashburnham Humbly sheweth that the said Town of Ashburnham is Fined in the Last State tax for a Deficiency of two three years

men which were absolutely Raised & marched agreable to the Resolve of the 2nd of Decr A. D. 1780 & subsequent resolves as will appear by the Receipt of the Superintendent; your Petitioner therefore Prays That your Honours would take the matter into your wise Consideration & Grant an abatement of the fines. As in Duty bound shall ever Pray

WILLIAM WHITCOMB.

In support of their petition the town produced the receipts for the required number of men, signed by Colonel Seth Washburn of Leicester, superintendent of enlistments.

LEICESTER June ye 26 1781.

Received of the town of Ashburnham five men who have enlisted and past muster &c., &c.

SETH WASHBURN
Superintendent.

These were David Clark and the four others named in a former paragraph.

LEICESTER March ye 27 1782.

This day received from Ashburnham Benjamin Clark a solger for the term of three years.

S. WASHBURN Supt.

LEICESTER June 11 1782.

This day received from the town of Ashburnham one man to serve three years.

S. WASHBURN Supt.

The last receipt probably refers to Peter Rodiman and it will be observed that all the receipts are dated some time subsequent to the entry of enlistment on the military rolls. It is possible that these receipts were of set form and were issued by Colonel Washburn, whenever the town had need of them, as vouchers in answer to the demands of the General Court.

The five soldiers who were recruited in the summer for three years according to tradition were hurried on to New York and from thence immediately proceeded with the army under Washington to Virginia, and there is ample evidence to sustain the assertion that some of the men enlisting this year remained in the service until near the close of the year 1783. The discharge of David Clark signed by General Knox is dated December 24, 1783.

The name of Jacob Winter appears in Captain Wilder's company in 1775. His subsequent service is not known, but he died a prisoner at Halifax in the autumn of 1777. The death of Samuel Mason, mentioned in the annals of 1778, is recorded by Mr. Cushing in September, 1777, and Jacob Lock who was in the same service died a few weeks later. He was a son of John Oberlock whose children assumed the name of Lock. The same year Francis Kendall died, as stated by Mr. Cushing, "on his way from the army."

And now after these years of carnage in the field and of denials and endurance at home, the curtain falls at Yorktown. The campaign of 1781 is ended. The nation's hope gleams in the bayonet and flashes in the sword of the returning soldier, while the hardships of the campaign are witnessed in his weary progress and the results of an exhaustive war are felt on every hand.

In the pursuit of the narrative through the foregoing pages, the burdens of taxation and other incidents of the home life of our fathers during the Revolution have been suffered to remain for mention in separate paragraphs. At the beginning of the war the colonists were not without resources but were unskilled in the art of finance. The colonial wars in which the people had been engaged had been maintained by a paper currency which though depreciated in

some measure was eventually redeemed by allowances from the treasury of England in the payments for service rendered by the colonies. The paper money of the Revolution had no such foundation. After a brief season of apparent solidity it gradually depreciated in value until in 1781 it utterly failed and suddenly went out of circulation by general consent. The experience of the people of Ashburnham from this source was probably no greater and certainly no less than that of other towns. Sums of money voted by the town for specific purposes so rapidly depreciated in value before the tax could be assessed and collected that the appropriation became inadequate for the purposes proposed and frequent disputes concerning balances arose between the debtor and the creditor. Explanatory of the intrinsic value of sums of money mentioned in the preceding and subsequent pages, the following table commencing with the year 1777 when the depreciation in earnest began will represent for each succeeding month the number of pounds that were equivalent to one hundred pounds of standard value:

	1777	1778	1779	1780	1781
January	100	325	742	2934	7500
February	104	350	868	3322	7500
March	106	375	1000	3736	7500
April	110	400	1104	4000	7500
May	114	400	1215	4800	7500
June	120	400	1342	5700	12000
July	125	425	1477	6000	
August	150	450	1630	6300	
September	175	475	1800	6500	
October	275	500	2030	6700	
November	300	545	2308	7000	
December	310	634	2393	7300	

The burden of taxation is seen in the following excerpts from the town records. Other sums were assessed for war purposes under command of the General Court, of which no entry was made in the current volume of records.

1778 December 16. We have assessed the inhabitants and estates in said town in the sum of £401–19–6 and have committed the lists to the constables for collection.

1779 February 18. Town and county rate committed for collection £357–9–11.

1779 August 30. Voted and granted £6150 to defray the charges of the war.

1779 September 13. We have assessed the inhabitants and estates in Ashburnham in the sum of £26364–7–0 and have committed the same to the constables for collection.

1780 January 27. Committed for collection state and county rate amounting to the sum of £4328–9–0.

1780 June 14. Voted and granted £2500 to defray town charges.

1780 June 27. Committed State tax for collection amounting to £6966.

1780 July 3. Voted and granted £7000 to defray the charges of the war and that the committee give security for any money that may be hired.

1781 March 5. Voted that each man be allowed fifteen pounds per day for labor on the highway.

1781 August 20. Voted and granted £300 silver money for town charges.

Voted that the constables take four shillings in lieu of one hundred dollars old emission from those persons who are behind in rates.

By a resolve of the General Court adopted in September, 1780, Ashburnham was required to supply the army with three thousand one hundred and twenty pounds of beef. The new obligation was promptly met by the town.

1780 October 5. Voted that Amos Lawrence buy 3120 lbs. of beef for the army.

In December following the General Court made a second requisition for beef and again the inhabitants of Ashburnham are assembled in town meeting prepared to second the provisions of the Legislature for the support of the army.

1780 December 27. Voted and granted £7200 for buying beef for the army.

Probably on account of the depreciation of the currency, this sum proved inadequate for the purpose. The proportion of Ashburnham was five thousand nine hundred and ninety-two pounds.

1781 January 15. Voted and granted £1800 to be added to £7200 granted at the last meeting and voted that Capt. Francis Lane purchase the beef.

In June following came another demand from the Legislature and another town meeting was the natural sequence. This meeting was convened July 11, and after listening to the requisition, the town chose Captain Lane "to buy the beef wanted," and at the same meeting instructed their agent to procure the beef for which the town was in arrears on the former requisitions. Either reminded of their delinquency, or prompted by a sense of duty, the town are assembled again in August and pass the final vote on the subject in choosing Benjamin Lane to buy all the beef that is wanted for the army. The last requisition was for twelve thousand four hundred and seventy-three pounds.

Among the cumulative burdens of the Revolution, and another item in the extended list of the demands upon the resources of a patriotic and uncomplaining people, was a second requisition for clothing which came simultaneously

with the third and last requisition for beef. It was a renewed appeal to the patriotism of the times. Our worthies neither faltered nor complained but promptly paid every demand upon their slender means and every tithe upon their daily toil. In addition to the meeting for the choice of State officers, there were seven town meetings in the year 1781, and the burden of them all was to raise money and consequently to increase the lien upon their future crops and the future labor of themselves and their families. During the closing years of the war the experience of the patriot at home, oppressed by poverty and met by the vigilant demands of increasing taxation, is a sublime exhibition of patience and courage. Frequently compelled to surrender to the oft-returning tax-gatherer the choicest of his herds and the ripening product of his fields, making contributions of beef from the needs of his family and dividing his garments with the soldier in the field, he teaches posterity the sacrifices made and the price paid for national existence. Ever prominent in the annals of Ashburnham and seen in the light of the lustre of the achievements in the field will be the home trials and the sacrifices which attended the daily life of the patriot citizen.

CHAPTER VI.

REVOLUTIONARY HISTORY. — CONTINUED.

PERSONAL NOTICES. — EBENEZER MUNROE. — ABRAHAM LOWE. — JOSEPH JEWETT. — SAMUEL KELTON. — REUBEN TOWNSEND. — ISAAC STEARNS. — WILLIAM STEARNS. — ISAAC WHITMORE. — CHARLES HASTINGS. — DAVID WALLIS. — CYRUS FAIRBANKS. — EBENEZER WALLIS. — THOMAS GIBSON. — JONAS RICE. — REUBEN RICE. — ELIAKIM RICE. — JABEZ MARBLE. — LEMUEL STIMSON. — ABRAHAM TOWNSEND. — JOHN BOWMAN. — JOSHUA FLETCHER. — JOSEPH MERRIAM. — ASA BROCKLEBANK. — JONATHAN GATES. — JONATHAN SAMSON. — EZEKIEL S. METCALF. — DAVID CLARK. — DAVID CHAFFIN. — EBENEZER B. DAVIS. — ISAAC MERRIAM. — DAVID MERRIAM. — JOHN WINTER. — WILLIAM WARD. — EDWARD WHITMORE. — REUBEN RICE. — ABRAHAM LOWE. — JOSEPH JEWETT. — REUBEN TOWNSEND. — LEMUEL STIMSON. — JONAS RICE. — JABEZ AND OLIVER MARBLE. — THOMAS GIBSON. — CHARLES HASTINGS. — JOSEPH GIBBS. — DAVID WALLIS. — CYRUS FAIRBANKS. — JOSHUA FLETCHER. — JOSEPH MERRIAM. — NAMES OF PENSIONERS RESIDING IN ASHBURNHAM 1840.

A CONSIDERABLE number of the citizens of this town who removed hither during the last years, or soon after the close of the Revolution, had previously served in the army. While their service constitutes no part of the history of Ashburnham in the Revolution, these men subsequently became so intimately connected with the affairs of this town that the events of their lives are a part of its general history and their service in the war, even if performed while they were residing elsewhere, claims admission in this record of the lives and services of the citizens of Ashburnham.

EBENEZER MUNROE, who removed to this town about 1782, where he lived highly respected until his death May

25, 1825, was a prominent actor in the engagement at Lexington, which is clearly established by the depositions of those who were engaged on that occasion. Replying to a remark made by a comrade as the British began firing that they only fired powder, Ebenezer Munroe exclaimed, "They have fired something besides powder now for I am wounded in the arm." He then discharged his gun receiving two balls from them in return, but neither did serious harm. His deposition was taken April 2, 1825, only a short time before his death in which he says, "After the first fire (of the regulars), I received a wound in my arm; as I turned to run I discharged my gun into the main body of the enemy. Another ball passed between my arm and my body and just marked my clothes, one ball cut off a part of my ear-locks which were pinned up. The balls flew so thick I thought there was no chance of escape and that I might as well fire my gun as stand still and do nothing." He claimed that he fired the first gun on the American side. Being wounded he mounted a horse and rode from town to town alarming the people and carrying with him the convincing proof that the war in earnest had begun.

ABRAHAM LOWE, while a resident of Lunenburg, was in the service two months at the siege of Boston, two months commencing December 1, 1775, and five months in New York in 1776. He was also a volunteer at the Bennington alarm in 1777.

JOSEPH JEWETT, then residing in Bolton, enlisted for eight months in the spring of 1778, and served in New York. Enlisted again in 1779 in Colonel Denney's regiment; also served at West Point three months in 1780 in Colonel Rand's regiment.

SAMUEL KELTON, then of Needham, was a sergeant in Captain Aaron Smith's company, at Lexington alarm, and a

captain in Colonel Patterson's regiment in the siege of Boston. He was known in Ashburnham as Captain Kelton from the date of his removal hither.

REUBEN TOWNSEND, then a citizen of Shrewsbury in 1776, served in New York five months and nine months in 1777. His first enlistment was in Colonel Smith's regiment and the second in Colonel Bigelow's regiment.

ISAAC STEARNS, previous to his removal from Billerica, was a soldier in the siege of Boston eight months and participated in the battle of Bunker Hill.

WILLIAM STEARNS, a brother of Isaac, was in the same company and for the same length of time. He removed to this town soon after this service.

ISAAC WHITMORE, while a resident of Leominster, was in Captain Maxwell's company in Colonel William Prescott's regiment for one year commencing January 1, 1776, and was discharged at Peekskill, New York. No record of service after his removal to this town has been found. The war record of Edward Whitmore, being performed after his removal to this town, is found in the preceding chapter.

CHARLES HASTINGS, then living in Princeton, served two months in 1776 in Rhode Island, also six months in 1777 in Colonel Keyes' regiment, and this service was also in Rhode Island. Enlisted again in 1778, and was a guard over prisoners from Burgoyne's army at Watertown and later at Rutland. This service was three or four months. Immediately after he enlisted in Colonel Wade's regiment and served six months again in Rhode Island and was in the engagement at Newport; also was in the continental army six months commencing July, 1780, and serving a part of the enlistment in Colonel Greaton's regiment he was transferred to Captain Haskell's company of Light Infantry under General Lafayette. This service was at West Point.

DAVID WALLIS, then a resident of Lunenburg and a youth of seventeen years, was in the service one month in Captain Bellows' company and was at Fort Edward. In 1778 he was three months at Castle William, again in 1779 he served three months in Captain Martin's company stationed at Governor's island and Castle William.

CYRUS FAIRBANKS, then residing in Harvard, was a volunteer at the Lexington alarm and subsequently a drummer eight months in Captain Jonathan Davis' company; was stationed at Cambridge and at Prospect Hill. In 1776 was a drum-major in the army near the Hudson, was also at Fort Edward one month in 1777.

EBENEZER WALLIS, at the age of fourteen years, was in the service three months at West Point in 1780. The following year he enlisted again for three months and was at or near West Point. The first service was in Colonel Rand's regiment and the last service was in Colonel Webb's regiment. After the war he resided in Lunenburg and in Vermont, removing to Ashburnham about 1830. In 1835 he started for New York and died on the way.

THOMAS GIBSON, then of Fitchburg, served five months in the siege of Boston and two months in 1776 in New York. In 1777 he served in Captain Thurlo's company and in 1780 he again enlisted for three months and joined the Northern army at and near West Point. He also served a few months at Boston harbor. Removed to Ashburnham very soon after his last term of service.

JONAS RICE, then residing at Salem, was a volunteer at the alarm at Lexington and served eight months in the siege of Boston. He then removed to Sterling and from there enlisted in 1776 for five months and was assigned to the army in New York. In 1777 he served two months in Rhode Island. Removed to Ashburnham in 1779.

REUBEN RICE was drafted at Lancaster December, 1776, for a term of three months and served the time in New Jersey. While temporarily residing in Winchendon in 1777 he served in Captain Boynton's company in New York. In the spring of 1780 he removed to this town and was subsequently in the army at West Point.

ELIAKIM RICE removed to this town in 1779 or 1780. He resided here several years and removed to Hartland, Vermont. While a resident of Salem he served two or more enlistments. He was at the siege of Boston in Colonel Bridge's regiment. His company, in which was his brother Jonas Rice, was engaged at the battle of Bunker Hill.

JABEZ MARBLE, then of Stow, served from October, 1775, to March, 1776, at the siege of Boston in Captain Brooks' company, Colonel Dyke's regiment. This service was performed for his twin brother Oliver, who had previously served three months of an enlistment for eight months. Only the name of Oliver Marble is found, as Jabez Marble answered to that name while completing the term of his brother. He served terms of two months each in 1777 and 1779, both in Rhode Island, and in a later campaign in the same locality he served three months in 1780. The two brothers removed to Ashburnham from Stow, 1780.

LEMUEL STIMSON, who removed to this town near the close of the war, had previously served two or more enlistments. He was in the siege of Boston and was engaged in the battle of Bunker Hill. His second service was at Ticonderoga in 1776. He was a native of Weston and resided in that town until he removed to Ashburnham.

ABRAHAM TOWNSEND removed to this town about 1778, where he resided many years. Later he removed to Berlin, Vermont. He was in the service eight months at Fishkill in 1778. No further record has been found and there is no

reason to presume that he was not in the service at other times during the war.

JOHN BOWMAN, who resided in Lexington until after the Revolution, removed from Andover to this town about 1810, served four enlistments and is found on the rolls of service in New York and Rhode Island.

JOSHUA FLETCHER, then of Westford, served an enlistment of seven months in Boston harbor and again three months at Boston. He then in February, 1777, entered the continental army for three years and was in Captain Thomas' company, Colonel Marshall's regiment. He was at the battle of Stillwater, the surrender of Burgoyne, and passed the winter at Valley Forge. Following the army in 1778 to New York on account of disability he was granted a leave of absence August 29, 1778, but was unable to rejoin the army. He removed to Ashburnham about 1810.

JOSEPH MERRIAM, then of Lexington, served two months in Rhode Island in 1779. In the following year he was one of the six months' recruits in the continental army, being assigned to Colonel Marshall's regiment. This service was in New York. In 1781, he again enlisted by agreement with the town of Bedford, and counted on the quota of that town and was again assigned to the Northern army on the Hudson. He removed to Ashburnham at the close of the war and subsequently to Templeton.

ASA BROCKLEBANK, while residing in Rindge, served two enlistments. He removed to this town in 1777 and returned to Rindge after a residence here of several years.

It is possible, and the conjecture is reasonable, that the names of some revolutionary soldiers, who resided in this town during the war or soon after removed hither, are not included in these pages. Indeed, it has been shown that there were demands for men and quotas were filled in

several instances where only a part of the names could be ascertained.

The fact that there were more enlistments than are here recorded is additional credit to the town and augments its patriotic record. In the preceding chapter and in the foregoing record of service, nothing has been assumed. If service in the army was not sustained by the record it has been neither disputed nor asserted. It has now become a fact that the men of the Revolution who did not win the laurels of war by personal service have had them thrust upon them by the generous and applauding lips of tradition. The missing rolls of many Massachusetts regiments give unusual license to conjectural statements, but affirmative testimony is the prime requisite of historical statement. In every instance an honest effort has been made to obtain all the available record on any subject, and while employing every established fact, the more fanciful narrative of tradition has always been heard with many grains of allowance; and if for these substantial reasons the history of Ashburnham is not as extended as might be desired, it is mainly correct.

The following statements made by the actors in the great drama of the Revolution were secured through the generous favors of Hon. Henry W. Blair, United States Senator from New Hampshire. These papers were received after the material for the preceding chapter collected from many sources had been arranged in the order of events. Of great interest in themselves they also sustain the outlines of the narrative to which they are subjoined. These papers, being the sworn statements of the revolutionary soldiers in support of their several applications for pension, are authentic accounts of their service. It is a matter of regret that the personal statement of all who bore arms in the war for

independence are not preserved. It is suggested at once that only the younger soldiers were living at the time these applications for pension were made. It also appears that some of the applicants gave only a partial account of the service performed. In such cases, doubtless, it was not deemed necessary to assert and prove more than one or two enlistments, and, seizing upon those terms of service which could be most easily proved, no mention was made of additional service. Others, it will be observed, present a full account of each enlistment.

JONATHAN GATES, whose affidavit introduces these interesting accounts of personal service, was a son of Captain Jonathan Gates. When an infant, and previous to the date of incorporation, the family removed to this town. September 11, 1832, at the age of seventy years, he says:

I. He enlisted at Cambridge in April, 1775, in Captain David Wilder's company, of which Jonathan Gates, Sen., was lieutenant, in Colonel Asa Whitcomb's regiment, and marched from Cambridge to Prospect Hill where he remained during the eight months of his enlistment, and after the expiration of his time he volunteered to stay until new recruits came, and stayed there three months longer, making eleven months in all.

II. In September, 1777, a short time before the taking of Burgoyne, enlisted at Ashburnham under Captain Jonathan Gates, Sen., for one month. Colonel Bellows commanded the regiment and we marched for the place when Burgoyne was taken near Beaman's Heights.

III. Enlisted at Ashburnham soon after the taking of Burgoyne, thinks it was in 1777, under Captain Whitney; marched to Castle William and was there three months on guard over prisoners from Burgoyne's army.

IV. Enlisted at Ashburnham in 1778 or 1779 [it was in December, 1777] for three months under Captain Jonathan Gates, Sen., marched to Bound Brook, New Jersey, and remained there for the full term of his service.

V. In 1780, or 1781 [it was in 1779], enlisted for six months at Ashburnham in Captain Fiske's company, in Colonel Jackson's regiment and remained there for his term of service.

In 1833 Mr. Gates gives additional particulars of his last service and says, "That orders were received for a certain number of men to go to Rhode Island; thought the number required of Ashburnham was seven, and he turned out as one of the seven. No officer but a sergeant went out with them. The sergeant was Joseph Stone. When they reached Providence, he was requested to go into Captain Fiske's company. He thinks that Captain Fiske's first name was Jared. He was not sure he had given the year correctly but it was when the British lay on Rhode Island. After about two months' service he was detailed with seventeen others, a lieutenant, one corporal and sixteen privates, to go on board a prison ship in which were thirty-two British prisoners; the ship lay at Fox Point, below Providence. He was on this ship about six weeks and received a wound on his head by the breech of a musket. The prisoners rose upon them one night and got possession of some of the guns. He was struck on the head in coming up the hatchway and bore the marks then (1833) of the blow. They succeeded in getting the mastery over the prisoners without the loss of any lives on the part of the guard, but two of the prisoners were missing. Soon after this he was detailed with twenty others to go to Bristol after hay for the continental horses. The hay was brought upon three boats, seven men to a boat, the whole under command of Lieutenant Nestle."

He further alleges, "that he was born at Harvard September 27, 1762, and lived at Ashburnham during the war." He moved to Salisbury, New York, 1798, to Antwerp, New York, 1815, and to Champion, New York, 1818.

JONATHAN SAMSON, eldest son of Jonathan Samson, was born at Harvard, May 7, 1759. The family settled in this town previous to date of incorporation. His statement was made in this town September 6, 1832, in which he says:

I. He enlisted in December, 1775, for six months and went to Roxbury, Massachusetts, and was put into the militia company of Captain Hill of Harvard. Thomas McBride of Boston was lieutenant and Samuel Sawin of Westminster was ensign.

II. Again enlisted in early part of summer of 1776 for four and a half months and went to Dorchester, Massachusetts, and was put into militia company of Captain Manasseh Sawyer of Sterling. Samuel Sawin of Westminster was lieutenant and the ensign was Carter. He was employed the whole time in building forts at Dorchester Heights.

III. Again enlisted in December, 1776, for three months in the last named company, and was stationed during this service at Dorchester Point near Boston.

IV. He also entered the service in July or August, 1777, was called out. A detachment of Burgoyne's army had made an incursion into Vermont and a call was made on Ashburnham for volunteers to go to oppose this force. Says he marched with about twenty others. They went as far as Charlemont, Massachusetts, where they were ordered to wait further orders and while there the company was dismissed. They volunteered for one month but were out only about three weeks.

V. Again enlisted in April, 1778, for three months in a militia company commanded by Captain White of Lancaster, Massachusetts, and was stationed on Castle island in Boston harbor.

VI. Again enlisted in July, 1780, for three months, and marched to West Point, New York, and on his arrival there was put in a company commanded by Captain Reed. The lieutenant was Brigham of Northborough, Massachusetts. Arnold had command there during this time and his plot to surrender to the enemy was discovered during this time.

William Ward, of Ashburnham, says "that he served with the claimant during the last enlistment."

John Hall, of Ashburnham, says that "he served with the claimant during the fifth service."

EZEKIEL SHATTUCK METCALF, a son of Joseph Metcalf, was born in Groton October 13, 1759. The family removed to Ashburnham, 1770. He died May 31, 1831. In support of the widow's application for a pension, the following statements were made at Ashburnham, August 26, 1839:

Eunice (Brooks) Metcalf, widow of Ezekiel Shattuck Metcalf, alleged that her husband served as an orderly sergeant and private in the war of the Revolution. She thinks that he served thirteen or fourteen months in all; and that one term was in Rhode Island and one at Roxbury, and that one of said services was rendered under Captain Gates and the other under Captain Jackson of Gardner. That later he rendered a service at Bennington at the time of the battle there in Captain Edgell's company, and says she was in the field with her father and while there Metcalf came to the field, being on the way to the north part of Ashburnham, to warn some of the soldiers to go to Bennington. Says she was an inhabitant of Groton at the time when Metcalf rendered his first services, but that he resided at Ashburnham from early childhood to his death.

Margaret (Metcalf) Townsend, widow of the elder Reuben Townsend, September 10, 1839, says she was a sister of Ezekiel Shattuck Metcalf, and that he being only sixteen years old served six weeks at Roxbury. Only four went from Ashburnham and her brother and her father were two of them. She remembers of preparing clothing for her brother and that he again entered the army for six months and served in Rhode Island. He left home then in the spring and while gone his tent was burned and he lost a part of his clothing and sent home for a new supply which we prepared and sent by my brother Samuel. He was an orderly sergeant in this service. She says her father and brother left for

Roxbury on the six weeks' tour in the month of November or December, and that her father was a sergeant in the company at home, but not at Roxbury.

Charles Hastings, of Ashburnham, March 10, 1840, alleges that he enlisted from Princeton, that he served six weeks in Rhode Island with Metcalf and was in another company of the same regiment, and that after the war he purchased a farm near Metcalf and they often talked over their service. He had heard Metcalf say he was an orderly sergeant in that service.

On file with these affidavits, there is an original order which was put in as evidence in the case.

ASHBURNHAM Jan'y 15 1782.

To MR. CAPT. BENJAMIN EDGEAL,

Sir please to pay to the Barer the State pay for the sarvis I did in your company in the year 1778 and this Resept shall be your distorg for the same.

EZEKIEL METCALF.

SAMUEL METCALF, a brother of Ezekiel, was born March 15, 1761, and died December 25, 1822. The widow alleges "that he served in Captain Gates' company of Asa Whitcomb's regiment at the alarm April 19, 1775." If so, he was only fourteen years of age and his name does not appear on the rolls of the company. She was his second wife and was born in 1776, and possibly could be in error in regard to the events of the war. In the case are filed minutes from muster rolls which prove service of Samuel Metcalf in Captain Joseph Sargeant's company in Rhode Island, 1777; in Captain Cowdin's company to reënforce the continental army in 1779; and his name appears on list of six months' recruits in 1780. In this case there was also filed an original order, as follows:

ASHBURNHAM July 8 1784.

Sir: Please to pay to Sewill Moore the whole of my continental wages that is due me for three months service done in the

year 1779 and this shall be your sufficient discharge for the same as will appear by the Captain's books.

SAMUEL METCALF.

Attest: REBECCA METCALF
SARAH WINCHESTER.

It was represented in the preceding chapter that David Clark and his sons, David and Benjamin, were in the service much of the time during the war. The family removed from Concord to Ashburnham previous to 1765.

DAVID CLARK, JR., under date of April 14, 1818, testifies to one term of service. It is known that he was in the army at other times. He alleges that he served in the continental establishment from March, 1781, to December 24, 1783; first, in the company of Captain Kilby Smith in the Sixth Massachusetts Regiment, and then in the same company in the Second Massachusetts Regiment after the reduction of the Sixth, under Major Burnham, commandant. Clark's original discharge, signed by General Henry Knox, is on file, with his application for pension. In July, 1820, Clark made an additional statement in which he asserts, "he is a farmer in Ashburnham, has a wife Sarah, aged fifty-three years, whose health is good; a daughter Grata, aged seventeen years, who is feeble; a daughter Sally, sixteen years, who is in good health, and a son George Washington, aged eight years. These," he says, "are all the children who reside with me."

DAVID CHAFFIN, a son of Timothy Chaffin, was fourteen years of age in 1775 when the family removed from Harvard. Increasing in years and probably in stature, he became a soldier in 1777. He says:

I. He was drafted in August, 1777, at Ashburnham for three months [his father was drafted and he went as a substitute], and marched to Bennington, thence to Stillwater and there joined the

main army and remained there until Burgoyne surrendered; then went to Half Moon, thence to Albany, and was there taken sick and was discharged by Major Rand and arrived home at Ashburnham, November 1.

II. In June, 1778, was drafted at Ashburnham for six months; marched to Providence, and from there into the Island, thence to Tiverton where he was discharged by Captain Edgell and arrived home January 4 or 5, 1779.

III. In September, 1779, at Ashburnham, enlisted for three months, as a fatigue-man, under Captain Henry, marched to Boston, thence to Castle island and Governor's island, where he served out the time.

IV. In 1780, enlisted at Ashburnham for six months; marched under Captain King to Springfield and there joined the regiment commanded by Colonel Bradford and went to West Point and was one of the guard and within ten feet of Major André when he was executed. Remained there until discharged and reached home the last of December, 1780.

Daniel Bond, then of Claremont, New Hampshire, in July, 1833, testifies that "he served with Chaffin at Boston in 1779 and also says that at one time Chaffin went for his father who had been drafted."

Chaffin removed to Claremont, New Hampshire, soon after the Revolution and was residing there when his application for pension was made.

Ebenezer Bennett Davis, son of Captain Deliverance Davis, was born in Littleton February 4, 1761. In his infancy the family removed to this town. His statement is brief but it includes three years of time and the service modestly stated was severe in the extreme. April 14, 1818, he alleges that "he enlisted in the continental establishment May 26, 1777, and served until May 26, 1780, in the company of Captain Haffield White in the Fifth Massachu-

setts Regiment, commanded by Colonel Rufus Putnam in General Nixon's brigade."

His original discharge is on file with his application.

This certifies that Bennett Davis has served three years in the fifth Massachusetts Regiment Being the full term of his Inlistment. Has conducted Himself as a good and faithful soldier and is hereby Discharged the Service.

Given under My hand at Quarters Soldiers fortune this 26 day of May 1780.

HAFFIELD WHITE
Capt. Com^{dt}

He states in explanation that he was discharged in the Highlands in the State of New York and that he enlisted under the name of Bennett Davis, but that his full name is Ebenezer Bennett Davis.

ISAAC MERRIAM came to Ashburnham previous to 1774 and remained a resident of this town until after the Revolution. In 1833, then a resident of Northumberland, New Hampshire, alleges that he enlisted at Ashburnham and served three months at Boston harbor, does not remember the date.

II. Again in 1779 enlisted at Ashburnham for six months in Captain Fiske's company in Rhode Island, and thinks the service commenced in the spring. When he had served three months, his brother David came and took his place as his substitute.

III. Again enlisted at Ashburnham, he thinks in 1780, for six months; did not remember whether he was then in the Continental or State Service. He marched to Springfield and then to West Point where he remained about a month and then marched into the Jerseys and was there when Arnold attempted to deliver up West Point and when Major André was hanged; was there about a month or more and while there marched through a place called Topon or Tampacin and a place called English Neighborhood, also

May 26, 1777, to December 31, 1779, and continuously in the Light Infantry until May 26, 1780. The principal witness Margaret (Metcalf) Townsend alleges in 1846, "that she well recollects when John Winter went into the army as he was a near neighbor of her father and says that he with others who were going into the service attended service the Sabbath before they left for the army and asked prayers in their behalf as was the custom of the time, and that when the said John Winter with Timothy Johnson, Ebenezer Bennett Davis and Thomas Ross returned from their three years' service, they again attended church and their names were read and thanks returned for their safe return which was customary at that time."

WILLIAM WARD was born in Waltham June 5, 1757, and came to this town when fifteen years of age with his older brother Caleb Ward. A few years later he purchased land in the northeast part of the town where he resided until his death. In the preceding chapter it appears that he completed seven terms of service during the war. In his applications for pension made in 1818, 1830 and 1833, he does not refer to his last enlistment and service under Captain Sibley in 1781, but his name appears on the muster roll. Mr. Ward and other soldiers in the company of Captain Gates in 1777 affirm that they were in the regiment of Colonel Benjamin Bellows, a New Hampshire regiment. It appears that this statement of Mr. Ward was questioned and he explains, at length, the circumstances of the case. This company from Ashburnham is not found in the rolls of Colonel Bellows' regiment. It is probable that Captain Gates' company, being suddenly called into the field, was not included in any regimental organization but was more closely allied to Colonel Bellows' regiment than to any other.

I. Mr. Ward alleges that he enlisted May, 1776, for two months and served in a militia company commanded by Captain Sergeant of Princeton; marched to Providence, thence to Boston Neck, thence back to Providence where he was discharged; that while at Providence he labored on a fort at Beacon Hill.

II. That in July, he thinks, 1777, he volunteered to oppose a detachment of the British army that was defeated at Bennington and at this time marched from Ashburnham to Charlemont, Massachusetts, where he remained about one month. He cannot recollect his officers for this tour of duty. [This service was under Captain Jonathan Gates.]

III. That in September, he thinks, 1777, he again enlisted at Ashburnham for one month and served in a company of militia commanded by Captain Gates of Ashburnham in the regiment of Colonel Bellows of Walpole, New Hampshire; marched through Charlemont, Williamstown, Massachusetts, and Bennington, Vermont, to Fort Edward, New York, where he remained until his discharge, and where he was at the time of Burgoyne's surrender.

IV. That in the spring of 1778, April, he thinks, he enlisted for one month and served at Prospect Hill, near Boston, that he was engaged during this term in guarding prisoners, a part of Burgoyne's army, who were kept in the barracks at Prospect Hill. He did not remember his officers at this time.

V. That he enlisted about the first of June, 1778, for a service of nine months in Captain William Warner's company of Colonel Marshall's regiment of General Patterson's brigade of Massachusetts line and was discharged March 7, 1779.

VI. That in the month of September, 1779, he thinks, he again entered the service for three months under the following circumstances: Francis Lane and Oliver Willard, two of the principal inhabitants of Ashburnham, requested him to enlist and as an inducement engaged to clear four acres of new land for him. He thinks that they were authorized by the town to offer such inducements. He served the three months at West Point in a company commanded by Captain Burt of Harvard and Lieutenant

Annanias Rand. Lieutenant Rand was cashiered, he thinks, for larceny. They marched from Ashburnham through Springfield and Hartford to West Point, New York.

In the last statement explaining how he remembers about his service of thirty days at the time of the capture of Burgoyne in 1777 and how he remembers the name of Colonel Bellows of Walpole, New Hampshire, "I have good reason for remembering the name" which is as follows:

"On the night previous to the surrender of Burgoyne, I was on guard with a young man, about my own age, in the woods nearly half a mile from Fort Edward, at a quarter where it was feared the Indians might make an attack. In the course of the night I swapt guns with said young man. The next morning he came to see me wishing to 'swap back,' which I declined and he left me; but fearing I might lose a good bargain I immediately exchanged the gun with one Gates, a brother of my captain. It was not long before this young man came with an officer who desired me to return the gun, and not being pleased with the replies I made, he left, and in a few minutes returned with a file of men and ordered me to the guard-house. This I remember was early in the afternoon and the news of Burgoyne's surrender was received while I was thus confined. Our company was immediately dismissed and I was relieved from confinement by order of Major Bridge. The officer who came with the young man aforesaid, was Colonel Bellows, and he it was who ordered me to the guard-house. When we arrived at Fort Edward, Captain Gates told us we were to serve under New Hampshire officers and that the Colonel's name was Bellows. We were quartered in brush huts a short distance from Fort Edward, and were allowed to follow our inclinations with a few salutary restraints. I cannot remember that we were ever paraded or exercised with Colonel Bellows' regiment."

Charles Hastings of Ashburnham, 1832, corroborates the statement of Ward in regard to the service in Captain Sar-

gent's company in 1776 and says that he (Hastings) served in the same company.

Jonathan Samson of Ashburnham, 1832, corroborates as to the last service of William Ward and says that he served at the same time and adds that about twenty men then volunteered from Ashburnham and served without pay or rations, volunteered for one month but served only about three weeks.

Nicholas Whiteman of Ashburnham, 1832, corroborates the statement as to service at Fort Edward in 1777 under Captain Jonathan Gates, and says he (Whiteman) was in the same service, and also corroborates Ward's last statement and adds that he thinks about thirty volunteered from Ashburnham; also says that they were paraded before Colonel Bellows and Major Bridge who furnished them with refreshments, said to have been taken from Burgoyne's boats as they were attempting to pass down the river.

EDWARD WHITMORE, youngest son of Joseph Whitmore, was born in Leominster, August 12, 1763.

Soon after the removal of the family to this town he entered the army at the age of sixteen years. In the following statement he has given an intelligent account of his service.

He says that in September or October, 1779, he enlisted at Ashburnham for three months with William Kendall, David Chaffin and Abraham Samson [it was probably Nathaniel Kendall and David Samson], being the number called for from Ashburnham. He marched directly to Boston with written instructions from his captain or from the selectmen (he could not say which), to go to the State House in Boston; when they arrived there they were ordered to Castle island; there remained a short time, then went to Governor's island in the harbor of Boston, there employed in repairing the fort on Castle William and clearing the trenches

at Governor's island under the command of Captain Wilson. The engineer's name who had charge of the works was Burbanks. He next enlisted for six months with six others, David Chaffin, Samuel Metcalf, Isaac Merriam, Jacob Rodiman, Simon Rodiman and Elijah Mason, in the month of June, 1780, marched from Ashburnham to Leicester; there mustered, from thence to Springfield; again mustered and put under command of one Captain Parker; from thence to West Point; there stationed a few days and then divided and sent to the several companies in which they were to serve. He was put into Captain King's company, Colonel Bradford and Lieutenant-Colonel Bassett, Fourteenth Massachusetts Regiment, Major Smith, General Patterson's brigade. Soon after he was placed under Captain King, the troops were called for to march to White Plains, cross from White Plains to Robinson's Farm; there received counter-orders, and from thence to Verplank's Point, there one or two days, and from there across King's Ferry to Orangetown, he thinks; from there to Totoway, Tunic Plains, Peramus and other places, and in the month of October or November marched to a place called New Windsor, above West Point; there employed in taking care of what was called the Park, military stores and arms; there about one month and then joined his regiment at the Highlands; remained there about one week and then received his discharge. He well recollects Arnold's leaving West Point. Saw Major André executed, which he thinks took place at Paramus.

Isaac Whitmore of Ashburnham, a brother of Edward Whitmore, says that Edward left their father's family in June, 1780, to join the continental army, and that about the first of January, 1781, "I went from home for the purpose of assisting my brother on his return to my father's and met him at Simsbury, Connecticut, as near as I can recollect."

Reuben Rice was born in Lancaster, now Boylston, August 10, 1757. He served one term in the army after his removal to this town in 1780.

I. He alleges he was drafted at Lancaster in November or December, 1776, for three months and served in the company of Captain Eager of Sterling. They proceeded to Bound Brook, New Jersey, by way of Worcester, Danbury and Morristown, crossing the river at King's Ferry. That their duty was to protect the person and property of the inhabitants from plunder and insult by detachments from the British army which lay near by. They also had about a dozen prisoners of war under guard.

II. In September, 1777, again enlisted in the militia company of Captain Boynton of Winchendon, where he then resided, for the term of one month. They marched to Saratoga by way of Northfield and Bennington, then went up the river to Fort Edward, then down the river a few miles. This last move was near the time of Burgoyne's surrender. He saw the arms of the enemy stacked on the field after they had marched off and saw a party of Canadians start for Canada after the surrender.

III. In July, 1780, again enlisted in a militia company of Captain Boutelle of Leominster, of Colonel Rand's regiment. Marched to West Point where he remained during this term of three months' service. During this service, Arnold attempted to betray the American army.

Eliakim Rice of Hartland, Vermont, a brother of Reuben Rice, testifies that "both were in the service at about the same time but not in the same company."

Thomas Gibson of Ashburnham testifies to service with Reuben Rice at West Point in Captain Boutelle's company.

Dr. Abraham Lowe gives an intelligent outline of his service under date of October 16, 1832.

I. He alleges that about December 1, 1775, he entered service as a volunteer in the militia company of Captain William Pope, the lieutenant being Thomas Hartwell, he thinks. He enlisted from Lunenburg and marched to Dorchester and remained in that service for two months, although the enlistment was for six weeks only.

II. He enlisted about July 1, 1776, for five months, from Lunenburg in militia company of Captain Jabez Keep of Harvard. He marched to New Haven, went thence by water to New York city; was there when the city was taken by the British under command of General Fellows. He was on guard near the Bowery on the morning when the British landed above there and took possession of the city. General Putnam came to their assistance and took them away. He was discharged about December 1, 1776.

III. In summer of 1777, it being reported that the Hessian troops were marching on Bennington, he volunteered under Daniel or David Carlisle of Lunenburg. They marched to Charlemont, where they heard of the battle of Bennington and went no farther. After a service of about a month, he returned home.

JOSEPH JEWETT in his application for pension only asserts one enlistment and that in concise terms. He says that while residing in Bolton he enlisted in the month of May or June, 1778, in Captain John Drury's company of Colonel Woods' regiment. He proceeded to White Plains with a small party and there joined his company; was on duty at Fishkill and White Plains and employed during the winter in building barracks and drawing timber. He was dismissed at Peekskill after he had completed his tour of eight months.

After his death the widow made a renewed application for pension and said her husband did not state all of his service when he applied for pension. At that time she presented proof of other service which is stated in a former paragraph.

REUBEN TOWNSEND was born in Shrewsbury August 23, 1758, where he continued to reside until he removed to this town about 1780.

I. He alleges that in June or July, 1776, he enlisted in Captain Newton's company of Colonel Smith's regiment, for five months, and was discharged at Philips Manor, New York, in December, 1776, or January, 1777.

II. In 1777, he enlisted in Captain William Gates' company of Colonel Bigelow's regiment — the Fifteenth Massachusetts — for eight months, and was discharged at Valley Forge with an allowance for pay for nine months.

Lieutenant Joseph Pierce certifies that he enlisted Reuben Townsend about the first of May, 1777, in the continental service for the term of eight months and that he was allowed one month's extra pay for helping build the barracks at Valley Forge and that after discharge the said Townsend had to march nearly four hundred miles before he reached his home.

LEMUEL STIMSON was born in Weston, July 11, 1758, and removed to this town in 1780. In his application for pension dated October 16, 1832,—

He alleges that he enlisted while residing in Weston, in May, 1775, for eight months, in the company of Nathan Fuller of Newton, in Colonel Gardner's regiment; that he was stationed at Cambridge during the entire service, and was engaged in the battle of Bunker Hill, and that Colonel Gardner was wounded in said battle and died the third day after, and Colonel Bond of Watertown succeeded Colonel Gardner.

II. He enlisted again in June or July, 1776, for five months, in the company of Captain Charles Miles of Concord, in Colonel Reed's regiment, and marched to Ticonderoga, by way of Fitchburg, Winchendon, Keene, Charlestown (No. 4) and Rutland; was stationed at Ticonderoga nearly all of the service, often employed in transporting wood across the lake for the use of the army, and was discharged at Albany in November, was also residing at Weston at time of last service.

JONAS RICE, a son of Zebulon Rice and a brother of Reuben and Eliakim Rice, was born in Lancaster, now Boylston, February 16, 1754. At the time of his first service he was residing in Salem and the subsequent service

was performed while he was a resident of Sterling. He removed to this town, 1779.

I. He alleges that he enlisted April 19, 1775, in a company of volunteers, at Salem, commanded by Captain Derby and marched to Cambridge. After a week of service he enlisted at Cambridge for eight months in the company of Captain John Bachelor of Colonel Bridge's regiment. [This company was engaged in the battle of Bunker Hill.] He was stationed during all of this service on Cambridge common at the house of one Hastings; that he was employed under General Putnam in an attempt to construct a fort on Lechmere Point, from which they were driven by British ships.

II. He again enlisted in the summer of 1776, for five months in militia company of Captain Samuel Sawyer. Marched from Sterling through Worcester, Hartford and New Haven to New York city; remained a few days in New York and then moved up the Hudson about two miles; was on duty at Fort Prescot when the city of New York was given up to the British. He then moved up to Harlem Heights where he remained through the rest of this service.

III. He again enlisted about July 1, 1777, for six months in militia company of Captain Francis Willson of Holden, Colonel Keyes' regiment. He marched to Leicester, thence to Providence, thence to a place about two miles south of Greenwich, thence through Warren to Tiverton and thence back to Providence. During this term of service he went to Point Judith to assist in collecting boats to be used in an attack on Newport. In sailing around the point many of the boats were destroyed, eight men drowned and the contemplated attack was abandoned.

Eliakim Rice, brother of Jonas, of Hartland, Vermont, but formerly of Salem, testifies that he served with his brother in the first service named commencing April 19, 1775.

JABEZ AND OLIVER MARBLE were twins and their service in the army partook of the close alliance of their lives. They were born in Stow September 15, 1755, and removed to Ashburnham 1789.

I. Jabez Marble alleges that in the fall after the British left Boston he went to Roxbury and took the place of his brother as a private soldier in Captain Caleb Brooks' company of Colonel Benjamin Dyke's regiment, and served a tour of three months at Boston and was verbally discharged on the seventh of March, 1777.

II. In May, 1777, he enlisted for two months in Captain John Gleason's company. Marched from Stow to Providence where he was stationed until about seventeen days before his time was out, when his company and Captain Hodgman's marched to Greenwich for the defence of the coast; remained there about two weeks and then returned to Providence where he was discharged.

III. He again enlisted at Stow in August, 1780, in company of Captain Moses Brintnall of Sudbury, Colonel Howe's regiment. He went to Rhode Island and was stationed the entire three months at Butt's Hill and was employed on fatigue duty building a fort.

In a subsequent statement explaining his service as substitute for his brother he says that his brother's name was Oliver Marble; they were twins and that about two months prior to the end of Oliver's term of service his brother became sick and he took his place for the balance of the term and always answered to his brother Oliver's name when it was called.

THOMAS GIBSON was born in Lunenburg, now Fitchburg, 1753, and resided there until the close of the war. After a temporary residence in Ashby he removed to this town, previous to 1787.

I. He alleges that he enlisted in the spring of 1775, for five months in Captain Stearns' militia company in Colonel Doolittle's

regiment. He lived at Fitchburg and marched thence to Winter Hill near Charlestown where he remained during the term of service. There were also continental troops at Winter Hill.

II. He again enlisted in September, 1776, at Fitchburg for two months in Captain Jonathan Woods' militia company of Colonel Converse's regiment. He marched to Dobb's Ferry, near West Point, passing through New Haven. Made several marches from Dobb's Ferry, one to Fairfield, Connecticut, towards New York city, etc. There were continental troops at Dobb's Ferry a part of the time while he was there. He remembers that on one occasion they brought a field-piece to bear upon a vessel at anchor off Dobb's Ferry and drove her down the river.

III. Again in July, 1780, he enlisted at Fitchburg for three months in the militia company of Captain Boutelle of Leominster of Colonel Rand's regiment. Marched through Worcester, Hartford and Fairfield to West Point. Arnold's treachery was discovered during this term of service, which enables him to fix the year as 1780. He saw Washington at West Point shortly after Arnold's treason was made known, that he was on guard when Washington rode up.

IV. In September, 1777, he thinks, he enlisted and served thirty days at the taking of Burgoyne in the militia company of Captain Thurlow of Fitchburg; was posted first at Batterskill and after at Fort Edward to prevent the British crossing the Hudson.

V. In April or May, the year he does not recollect, but thinks it was towards the close of the war, he enlisted for three months in the militia company of Captain Joshua Martin of Lunenburg and served at Castle William in Boston harbor, in the regiment of Colonel Jones. There were continental troops on the island who were quartered in the fort and militia were outside in barracks.

Reuben Rice of Ashburnham testifies that he served with Thomas Gibson from July, 1780, in Captain Boutelle's company.

Ebenezer Wallis of Ashburnham testifies that he served with Thomas Gibson in the tour from September, 1780, at West Point.

CHARLES HASTINGS was born in Princeton, November 26, 1760, and removed to this town, 1783. While a resident of Princeton, he entered the army five times. September 6, 1832, he gave the following intelligent account of his service:

I. He alleges that he enlisted in May, 1776, for two months in a militia company commanded by Captain Sargeant of Princeton in the regiment of Colonel Josiah Whitney. He marched to Leicester, thence to Providence, thence to Greenwich, Rhode Island, thence to Boston Neck, and thence back to Providence.

II. He again enlisted at Leicester in June, 1777, for six months in Captain Willson's company of Colonel Keyes' regiment. He marched to Providence, thence to Greenwich, he thinks, thence to Bissell's mill, about two miles from Providence, and thence back to Providence. That during these two terms, there were only a few troops in Rhode Island and they were employed in guarding the coast.

III. He again enlisted about April 1, 1778, in militia company of Captain Nathan Harrington. Marched to Roxbury and thence to Watertown where they were employed in guarding a part of the prisoners from Burgoyne's army. Marched from Watertown with prisoners to Rutland, where they remained guarding said prisoners to July, 1778, when he was discharged. The guard was commanded by Major Reuben Reed.

IV. He again immediately enlisted July, 1778, for six months, in the militia company of Captain Belknap of Colonel Wade's regiment. Marched to Providence, thence to Obdike Newtown, or a place of some similar name; thence to Newport where they joined a continental brigade. Engaged in the battle of Newport in October, 1778, and retired from there to Tiverton, thence to Obdike Newtown and thence to Providence.

V. He again enlisted about July 1, 1780, for six months for service in continental army. He was ordered to Springfield and then marched to West Point and joined a company in Colonel

Greaton's regiment of General Nixon's brigade. Soon after was transferred to the Light Infantry under General Lafayette, Captain Haskell's company and Colonel Gimmatt's regiment with which he continued to the fall of 1780, when he returned to his former company from which he was discharged.

William Ward testifies to service with Charles Hastings from May, 1776, in Captain Sargent's company.

Jonas Rice of Ashburnham testifies to service with Charles Hastings in Captain Willson's company from June, 1777. Says that while at Providence they were quartered in the college.

Joseph Gibbs, son of Joseph and Hannah (Howe) Gibbs, was born October 12, 1756. During the Revolution, he resided in Princeton and removed to this town previous to 1786. Commencing in May, 1775, he served eight months in the siege of Boston in the company of Captain Adam Wheeler in Colonel Doolittle's regiment. Seven companies of Colonel Doolittle's regiment, including the company of Captain Wheeler, were engaged in the battle of Bunker Hill, and of the regiment nine were wounded. The name of Joseph Gibbs, of Princeton, is borne on the rolls of those who served eight months in the siege of Boston. Many in this service reënlisted and served under Washington at New York, but the date of his return to Princeton does not appear. In July, 1780, he enlisted for three months in the company of Captain Ephraim Stearns in Colonel John Rand's regiment. This service was at West Point and King's Ferry and a part of the time under the immediate command of Washington. In the same service was Jonathan Samson, Andrew Winter, Jr., Thomas Gibson, Ebenezer Wallis and Reuben Rice, who were subsequently his neighbors in Ashburnham.

David Wallis was born in Lunenburg October 15, 1760. He removed to this town about 1795, where he resided until his death.

I. He alleges that in September, 1777, he enlisted in a company of militia under Captain Bellows and he thinks Colonel Bellows of Walpole, New Hampshire, was in command of the regiment. He enlisted for one month, marched to Fort Edward via Northfield and Bennington and was there when Burgoyne surrendered.

II. In April, 1778, he enlisted at Lunenburg in militia company of Captain Merick of Princeton of Colonel Stearns' regiment for three months. Marched to Dorchester and then to Castle William in Boston harbor. There were two companies of militia and one of continental artillery on the island.

III. In April, 1779, he enlisted at Lunenburg for three months in Captain Joshua Martin's company of Colonel Jones' regiment and served at Castle William. They were employed in building fortifications. During this service the artillery company was ordered to Rhode Island for a few days. He was ordered several times to Governor's island.

Nicholas Whiteman of Ashburnham testifies that he served with David Wallis, on Castle island from April, 1778.

Thomas Gibson of Ashburnham testifies to service with David Wallis in Captain Martin's company in 1779 at Castle William.

CYRUS FAIRBANKS was born in Harvard, May 29, 1752, and removed to Ashburnham, 1788, where he died at the advanced age of one hundred years, June 18, 1852. He gives an account of three terms of service while residing in Harvard.

I. He alleges that on April 19, 1775, then residing in Harvard, he volunteered to oppose the British then marching on Concord. He proceeded to Concord and thence to Cambridge. After remaining there about a week enlisted as a drummer for eight months in the Massachusetts militia company of Captain Jonathan Davis in Colonel Asa Whitcomb's regiment and served out full

term. He was first quartered on Cambridge river about a mile from the college and afterward on Prospect Hill.

II. In the month of September, 1776, he again enlisted at Harvard for two months as a drummer in the militia company of Captain Hill of Colonel Converse's regiment. Marched via Worcester, New Haven, Fairfield and White Plains to Dobb's Ferry, where he remained until his time was out. He says he served as drum-major during this term. The regiment was employed in transporting supplies up the river.

III. In the month of September, 1777, when Burgoyne was advancing he enlisted at Harvard for one month. Marched to Petersham where his company was organized and he chosen corporal in militia company of Captain Hill, he thought. He marched to Fort Edward passing through Bennington; remained in service entire term of his enlistment.

JOSHUA FLETCHER was born in Westford February 22, 1760, and removed to this town about 1810. He was a resident of Westford during the following service:

I. He alleges that he first entered service for seven months in Captain Abisha Brown's company of Colonel Whitney's regiment of Massachusetts forces and served at Nantasket island in the harbor of Boston to the end of his term.

II. He next served at Boston three months under Captain John Minot.

III. He next entered the army on the continental establishment, February, 1777, for three years and was mustered at Boston and proceeded in Captain Philip Thomas' company of Colonel Marshall's regiment of Massachusetts line to Ticonderoga and was at Fort Miller, Saratoga, Valley Forge and White Plains. He served one year and eight months when he was taken sick with a fever and a sore on his breast and was furloughed until he should recover. He did not recover until after the close of the war and was never able to rejoin the army. The following is a copy of the leave granted.

CAMP AT WHITE PLAINS, August 29, 1778.

His excellency approves that Joshua Fletcher, soldier in Col. Thomas Marshall's regiment of Massachusetts Bay State shall have leave of absence until the recovery of his health and spirits and then to return to his duty.

The BARON DE KALB
M. G^l.

JOSEPH MERRIAM was born in Woburn February 3, 1763, and lived in Lexington and Bedford during the war. It appears that he removed from Bedford to Ashburnham 1784, and remained several years when he removed to Templeton and subsequently returned to Ashburnham.

I. He alleges that in the fall of 1779 he enlisted for two months in company of Captain Samuel Heald of Carlisle in Colonel John Jacob's regiment. He marched to Providence where they encamped about three weeks and then marched to Tiverton and when the British left Rhode Island they went over Howland's Ferry to Butt's Hill where he remained until discharged in November, 1779.

II. In 1780 he enlisted for six months in Lieutenant-Colonel Thompson's company as it was called, but it was commanded by Ensign Thayer, in Colonel Marshall's regiment—the Tenth Massachusetts. He joined the regiment at West Point where they were encamped for nearly three weeks, when he was detached with several others to King's Ferry and put under the orders of Colonel Brewer and employed in conveying troops and baggage over the river, after which he joined his regiment at Verplank's Point and proceeded with his regiment to New Jersey and after serving out his six months was discharged at West Point in January, 1781.

III. In 1781 the town of Bedford hired him to go into the continental service for three months. He was mustered in, he thinks, by Colonel Brown of Tewksbury and then proceeded to New York State and joined the army at Gallows Hill. He was

immediately put under orders of Colonel Procter, a militia officer, and went about seven miles to one Captain Knapp's farm to guard cattle, where he remained about three weeks when he returned to camp and was taken by Major Keyes, who was a deputy-quartermaster-general in care of forage, as his waiter. He was stationed at Peekskill and his quarters were near General Heath's. He remained on this duty during the remainder of his service.

Some of the revolutionary soldiers to whom pensions were granted had died before the date of any complete list that has been discovered. In 1840 there were remaining in this town thirteen revolutionary soldiers and three widows of soldiers who were pensioned.

Cyrus Fairbanks survived his venerable associates.

Lemuel Stimson	died	September 22,	1840
Charlotte Lowe, widow of Dr. Lowe,	"	May 5,	1841
Thomas Gibson	"	June 11,	1841
David Clark	"	July 5,	1841
Joshua Fletcher	"	April 14,	1843
Jabez Marble	"	December 23,	1843
Joseph Jewett	"	May 3,	1847
Zilpah Rice, widow of Jonas Rice,	"	July 22,	1847
John Bowman	"	October 22,	1847
William Ward	"	December 3,	1847
Jonathan Samson	"	December 9,	1847
Margaret Townsend, widow of Reuben Townsend,	"	March 20,	1848
Isaac Whitmore	"	May 2,	1848
Joseph Merriam	"	April 4,	1849
Charles Hastings	"	November 28,	1850
Cyrus Fairbanks	"	June 18,	1852

CHAPTER VII.

STATE RELATIONS, POLITICS, TOWN OFFICERS.

A SEASON OF DISQUIETUDE. — SHAYS' REVOLT. — THE LOYAL SENTIMENT OF ASHBURNHAM. — VOLUNTEERS TO SUPPRESS THE REVOLT. — ISAAC STEARNS' DIARY. — A BLOODLESS CAMPAIGN. — CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTIONS. — REPRESENTATION IN THE LEGISLATURE. — VOTE OF THE TOWN FOR GOVERNOR. — PROPOSED DIVISIONS OF THE COUNTY. — A LIST OF TOWN OFFICERS.

At the close of the Revolution the situation of the country was perilous and critical. The difficulties of a public nature were changed in character by the close of the war but were not removed and peace brought no immediate relief to the financial difficulties which had attended the prosecution of the war. The resources of the State were exhausted while the towns were groaning under the burden of debt. In the extremity of the hour, the most oppressive systems of taxation were adopted, and if strenuous measures were demanded by the necessities of the times they did not put money in the purse of the tax-payer. In continued efforts to pay the taxes incident to the times, individuals had suffered their liabilities to accumulate and creditors, seizing upon the agency of new laws and reëstablished courts, resorted to legal process in the collection of debts. The tax collector had scarcely drained the scanty income of the farm before the sheriff armed with executions demanded the remaining cow and frequently the homestead. For a season the wisdom of statesmen and a multitude of laws brought no relief.

During the continuance of the war, without matured forms of government or systems of laws, the people had been united and held together in a common purpose. With freedom came new responsibilities and grave embarrassments. The government was new and unfamiliar to the people, and at first they came in contact with the harsher and more exacting features of the laws. To them the new laws were little more than a code for the collection of debts and the courts were an agency for the oppression of the poor. Feeling the weight of their burdens and not apprehending their cause, the people became dissatisfied with their government and the officers chosen to administer it. The murmur of discontent was heard on every hand, but the unsatisfactory state of public affairs and the uncertainty of the future were only shadows in the deeper gloom of the poverty and debt in their homes. The people had bravely endured extreme hardships and now victorious in the field they were sadly disappointed with the early fruits of a freedom which had been secured by their service and sacrifice. For a season the destiny of the republic was evenly balanced between revolt inviting anarchy and liberty restrained by law. In common with the people at large the inhabitants of this town shared in the gloom and burdens of the hour, but through discouragement they did not lose faith in the final success of the government or countenance any disorderly conduct. The revolt under the leadership of Shays, Day and Shattuck was encouraged by the active and open support of many in this vicinity, but there is no evidence that any citizen of this town was ever found within the ranks of open revolt.

The theatre of Shays' rebellion was wholly outside of Ashburnham. A complete history of that ill-advised and irrational revolt would contain little, if any, reference to the people or the sentiment of this town. The compliment is

almost reciprocal, and these pages would contain no reference to the riotous proceedings if it could be shown that the inhabitants of Ashburnham, surrounded by the same difficulties and suffering the same hardships, did not give any expression of sympathy to the movement, or utter any complaints against the heavy burdens which oppressed the Commonwealth. It is reasonably certain that none from this town joined the revolt. And while there is no proof that any considerable portion of the inhabitants were in sympathy with it, there is evidence that they seriously considered the state of existing affairs. Yet their voice was not raised until the rebellion was crushed and the government left at liberty to answer their complaint. On the fourteenth of March, 1787, a full month after, the only remaining remnant of the revolt was dispersed at Petersham, the town met in a legal meeting.

To see if the town will take any method to become acquainted with the minds of our fellow citizens in this commonwealth concerning the choice of our officers to be employed in government the present year or pass any vote or votes that the town shall think proper under said article.

To see if it is any mind of the town that there is any matter of grievance worthy of notice which we suffer by reason of the present administration of government, and if it is the minds of the town that there is matter of grievance to see what method the town will take for redress of said grievance.

Voted to send a man to Worcester to meet other towns and chose M^{r} Jacob Willard.

It was moved to see if it was the mind of the town that there is matter of grievance that the people labor under and it passed in the affirmative.

The town having chosen Jacob Willard to represent them at the approaching session of the General Court, met again

in May to give their representative instruction, whereupon it was ordered that he be instructed :

1st To have the general court moved out of Boston.

2d To Endeavor that the Courts of Common Pleas be abolished.

3d To Endeavor that the salary men be lowered.

4th To prevent if possible a paper currency.

5th To continue the Tender Act for another year.

6th To Endeavor that a free pardon be held out to all those persons that have taken up arms against the government.

These instructions are simply a brief statement of the most prominent measures that were being advanced by many as a remedy for existing grievances. And while the Legislature was not removed from Boston, the salary of one officer, the governor, was reduced and a bill providing for a new emission of paper money was defeated. On the last of these instructions the town again took action at the next meeting. "Chose Jacob Willard, Joshua Holden and Captain Daniel Putnam to draft a petition requesting the governor and council to further reprieve or pardon Captain Job Shattuck and others now under sentence of death and that the petition be signed by the inhabitants individually." There were fourteen persons under sentence of death and among them Job Shattuck who was captured in the early progress of the revolt at his home in Groton.

In all of these proceedings of the town there is no exhibit of temper nor any apparent failure of candid consideration. The instructions to their representative are moderate and from their standpoint not unreasonable, and their request for an amelioration of the sentence of Shattuck and others might have been attended with censure of their riotous conduct. At all events the persons under sentence were

pardoned by those who had less reason for the exercise of clemency.

In the records for the year 1787 and again the following year is entered at length the formal oath of allegiance prescribed in the Constitution of the State and to it is subscribed the names of the selectmen, assessors, treasurer and constables of each year. The town that took this precaution to restrain insubordination and to secure a firmer loyalty to the State and the men who voluntarily subscribed their names to that form of an oath will never be suspected of being in sympathy with the revolt. If they petitioned for the pardon of the rebels it was more in the spirit of forgiveness and charity than from any existing or former approval of their conduct. The vote of the town for governor for four years commencing 1783 was substantially unanimous for James Bowdoin who was the representative of the law and order party. During these disturbances it is evident that the controlling element and the voice and influence of the town did not fail in the maintenance of an orderly conduct and of a firm loyalty to the State. While the revolt was sustained in other places our fathers assembled in the meeting-house Wednesday, January 17, 1787, and listened to a sermon by Mr. Cushing from the text, "That there be no breaking in nor going out, that there be no complaining in our streets. Happy is that people that is in such a case."

This was a season of great excitement. The laws were openly violated and defied in many places. The inhabitants of Ashburnham, impatient of the delay of a legal meeting, held informal meetings the following Friday and Monday. A company of thirteen men marched to the assistance of the militia. The details of this voluntary service are recorded in a diary kept many years by Isaac Stearns from which the following extracts are transcribed.

Thursday, January 18, 1787. I went to town to training or rather to try to get men to go to Worcester.

Friday. I went up to town meeting.

Monday. I went to town meeting.

Thursday. I went to town to see about getting men to go against the insurgents.

Friday, January 26, 1787. I set out with thirteen men and lodged at Richardson's in Leominster.

Saturday. Lodged at Patch's in Worcester.

Sabbath night. Lodged in Spencer at one Jenks.

Monday night. At Bugbee's in Brimfield.

Tuesday night. At Burt's in Springfield and

Wednesday night, also at Burt's.

Thursday, February 1. We marched through Chicopee, a parish of Springfield, to South Hadley and lodged at one Preston's.

Friday night. I was on guard.

Saturday night. About ten o'clock we marched from South Hadley to Amherst and made a little halt.

Sabbath, Feby 4. Marched through South Barre and lodged in Petersham.

Monday. Marched to Barre and lodged at Capt. Henry's.

Tuesday. Marched to Oakham and back to Henry's in Barre.

Wednesday. We exercised.

Thursday. I went about four miles after insurgents.

Friday. I chopped wood for Capt. Henry, at night I mounted guard.

Saturday. Came off guard. Afterwards did some writing.

Sabbath, February 11. I went to Barre meeting. Mr. Dana preached from Psalms 97: 1. In the afternoon we marched from Capt. Henry's to Dr. Strickland's who lived in one Nurse's house in Barre.

Monday. I walked down to Esqr Caldwell's.

Tuesday. I went on guard.

Wednesday. I came from guard. At eight o'clock at night we marched from Barre to Hardwick in water up mid leg and in

the rain and came to one Haskell's in Hardwick and there remaining part of the night, tarried Thursday; and Friday in the forenoon I chopped wood for Mr. Haskell. In the afternoon we marched back to Barre.

Saturday. I looked after Dr. Strickland's cattle.

Sabbath, February 18. I went on guard; came off Monday.

Tuesday. I went to Esqr Caldwell's and read in Worcester Magazine; afterwards drinked some cider and returned to my quarters.

Wednesday. We marched to Rutland; there we were dismissed, about noon we set out and came through Princeton, a part of Hubbardston and through Westminster to Col. Rand's where the men lodged, but I came to Lieut. Munroe's in Ashburnham.

Thursday. I came home.

This was a bloodless yet an industrious campaign. From a military standpoint the results, so far as we know, were not particularly decisive, but as an exponent of the prevailing sentiment of the town at a season of discontent our little army of invasion made a most cheerful campaign, and as volunteers in the cause of law and order their service must be accredited to a patriotic impulse which commands our willing esteem.

In 1778 a Constitution for "the State of Massachusetts Bay" was submitted for the approval of the people and by them rejected. The necessity for a more stable and comprehensive form of government remained. In 1779 the General Court passed a resolve calling upon the voters to decide whether they would instruct their representatives to call a State convention to prepare and submit for their approval a form of Constitution. A convention was ordered and the Constitution then prepared was ratified by the people in 1780. In these proceedings the following votes will reflect the sentiment of this town.

May 7, 1779. Voted to have a new form of government as soon as may be. Also that our representative vote to have a State convention called for that purpose.

William Whitcomb was the representative at the time this vote was passed. There is no record of the choice of a delegate to the constitutional convention.

May 31, 1780. Voted to accept of the form of government as it now stands all except three articles. Accepted unanimously. The articles accepted against are the following: The third in the bill of rights, forty-seven for it as it now stands, and twelve against; — Chapter 2, Section first, article seventh, accepted with this amendment: — That the Governor by advice of his council have power to march the militia to any one of the neighboring or adjoining States in case of invasion in the recess of the General Court. Chapter first, section third, article fourth: — Two persons against it as it now stands.

The persons dissatisfied with the third article of the bill of rights were the Baptists who contended that there was injustice in the conditions which required them to contribute to the support of the standing or Congregational order unless they were members of some other society.

A convention of delegates was assembled in Boston in January, 1788, to cast the vote of Massachusetts on the question of the acceptance of the Constitution of the United States. The town of Ashburnham was represented in that distinguished body by Jacob Willard. While a majority of the convention finally cast the vote of Massachusetts in favor of the adoption of the Constitution, only seven of the fifty delegates from Worcester county voted in the affirmative. The name of Mr. Willard is found with the majority from this county.

In 1795, the town voted unanimously that it was inexpedient to revise the Constitution of the State, but in 1820, the town by a vote of sixty-three to seventeen deemed it expedient to call a convention for revision. In both instances the town voted with a majority of the whole vote of the State. In the convention which was assembled at this time the town was represented by Silas Willard. Of the fourteen proposed amendments the people of the State ratified nine. They are the numbers I to IX of amendments to the Constitution. The town of Ashburnham voted in the affirmative on all the proposed amendments except the fifth. This was one of the five which was rejected. The amendments, numbered X, XI, XII and XIII, were proposed by the Legislature and ratified by the people without the intervention of a convention. The votes of the people of this town were as follows:

X.	1831.	Affirmative, 104	Negative, 2
XI.	1833.	115	1
XII.	1836.	49	5
XIII.	1840.	145	38

In 1851, a proposition to call a convention for revision was submitted to the people and defeated. The vote of this town was 183 in favor of a convention and 138 opposed. The third convention of delegates was assembled 1853. In the preliminary vote 220 desired to call the convention and 118 were willing to continue the constitution without change. The measure having received a sufficient number of votes, the town was called upon to make choice of a delegate. Simeon Merritt was elected, receiving 153 votes to 118 for Reuben Townsend. This convention submitted to the people eight propositions. None of them were ratified. The vote of Ashburnham was 203 in favor and 146 opposed. By a light

vote the town voted with the majority in the State in ratifying the six amendments that were added in 1855 and no subsequent amendment has elicited a full vote or a very decided expression of opinion. In later years, the sentiment of the town has been expressed by printed ballots. But on the pending amendments in 1820, the vote was taken in a more captious manner. The warrant calling upon the inhabitants of Ashburnham to assemble announced that the vote would be taken in the following manner: "All the voters to be seated and when called upon to vote then all that vote to rise and stand up with their heads uncovered until they are counted and then sit down in their seats again with their heads covered." It was a rare display of brains both in the record and in the vote.

The relations of Ashburnham to the temporary forms of government, existing from 1774 to 1780, have been noticed in the Revolutionary History of the town. The first election under the Constitution in the autumn of 1780 was for a short term. At this election the town voted not to send a representative and continued of the same mind at the annual election the next spring. In fact, until the close of the century, Ashburnham was represented in only eight sessions of the Legislature, having voted thirteen times "not to send a representative this year." It should be borne in mind that until 1831, the State officers and the Legislature were elected in the spring, and that the General Court was convened the last Wednesday in May. To Jacob Willard was reserved the honor of being the first representative from this town under the Constitution. He was elected in 1782 and again in 1787, 1791 and 1792; William Whitcomb 1783 and Samuel Wilder 1788, 1796 and 1798. Every other year the town was not represented in the popular branch of the Legislature, and in 1798 Mr. Wilder died before the Legislature convened.

Beginning with the present century, Jacob Willard was again elected in 1801, and following a familiar precedent the next seven years the town voted not to send a representative. In 1809, Joseph Jewett was first chosen and reëlected in 1812, 1813, 1814, 1816, 1821, 1829. He was also elected in 1810, but immediately after the declaration of the vote the town from a chronic habit "voted not to send a representative this year." Notwithstanding the vote of the town, Mr. Jewett, having been elected, assumed the duties of the office. Elisha White represented the town 1815; Stephen Corey 1819; Ivers Jewett 1824; Abraham T. Lowe 1825; Charles Barrett 1828; Nathaniel Pierce 1830.

Simultaneous with the amendment of the Constitution in 1831, changing the time of election from the spring to November and continuing until the amendment of 1840, the town having 375 or more ratable polls was entitled to send two representatives. Commencing with the fall elections and winter sessions and continuing until the adoption of the district system in 1857, the town failed ten times to be represented.

The earlier failures to elect a representative arose as much from a sentiment of indifference as from any other cause, but at this time there was a livelier interest in political affairs and party lines were sharply defined. The attempt was annually made and an election failed only when the combined vote of the Democrats and anti-slavery party defeated the Whigs in securing a majority which was then necessary to elect. In 1850 the Whigs were not only prevented from sending a representative but witnessed the election of a political opponent. During this period the following persons were elected for the session of the years ensuing:

1831.	Nathaniel Pierce,	Hosea Stone.
1832.	Nathaniel Pierce,	Hosea Stone.
1833.	Hosea Stone,	Asahel Corey.

1834.	Asahel Corey,	Kilburn Harwood.
1835.	Asahel Corey,	Kilburn Harwood.
1836.	Asahel Corey,	Reuben Townsend.
1837.	Reuben Townsend,	Stephen Cushing.
1838.	Reuben Townsend,	No choice.
1840.	George G. Parker.	
1841.	George G. Parker.	
1845.	John C. Glazier.	
1850.	Ivers Adams.	
1851.	Joel Litch.	
1854.	Edward S. Flint.	
1855.	Ohio Whitney, Jr.	
1856.	Joseph P. Rice.	

In the district system of representation Ashburnham was classed with Winchendon until 1876. The representatives have been as follows:

1857.	Jacob B. Harris	of Winchendon.
1858.	Josiah D. Crosby	of Ashburnham.
1859.	William Murdock	of Winchendon.
1860.	Albert H. Andrews	of Ashburnham.
1861.	Nelson D. White	of Winchendon.
1862.	Thomas Boutelle	of Ashburnham.
1863.	Giles H. Whitney	of Winchendon.
1864.	George C. Winchester	of Ashburnham.
1865.	Giles H. Whitney	of Winchendon.
1866.	George E. Fisher	of Ashburnham.
1867.	Windsor N. White	of Winchendon.
1868.	George H. Barrett	of Ashburnham.
1869.	William L. Woodcock	of Winchendon.
1870.	Orlando Mason	of Winchendon.
1871.	Albert G. Sinclair	of Winchendon.
1872.	Austin Whitney	of Ashburnham.
1873.	Charles A. Loud	of Winchendon.
1874.	Wilbur F. Whitney	of Ashburnham.
1875.	Charles A. Loud	of Winchendon.

Under a revision of the districts Ashburnham was classed with Gardner, Winchendon, Westminster and Princeton and privileged to send two representatives.

1876. Simeon Merritt of Ashburnham and Wilder P. Clark of Winchendon.
1877. C. Webster Bush of Gardner and Artemas Merriam of Westminster.
1878. Wilder P. Clark of Winchendon and William H. Brown of Princeton.
1879. Edwin J. Cushing of Gardner and George W. Eddy of Ashburnham.
1880. Giles H. Whitney of Winchendon and J. Henry Miller of Westminster.
1881. John D. Edgell of Gardner and John B. Fay of Princeton.
1882. Walter O. Parker of Ashburnham and Wilder P. Clark of Winchendon.
1883. Roderick R. Bent of Gardner and Edwin L. Burnham of Westminster.
1884. Roderick R. Bent of Gardner and Charles J. Rice of Winchendon.
1885. Charles J. Rice of Winchendon and Herbert S. Stratton of Gardner.

The vote for governor at one hundred and five elections presents many suggestions concerning the growth and sentiment of the town. The vote for presidential electors being substantially a repetition of the vote for governor the same year affords no additional information. If, for a few years early in the present century, the town evinced an unsteadiness of purpose, the political sentiment of Ashburnham has been mainly in sympathy with the Federal, Whig and Republican parties.

Year	Name of Candidate	No. of Votes	Name of Candidate	No. of Votes	Name of Candidate	No. of Votes	Name of Candidate	No. of Votes
1780	Hancock	25	Bowdoin	10				
1781	Hancock	22	Bowdoin	2				
1782	No record of a vote.							
1783	Bowdoin	14	Lincoln	2	Hancock	0		
1784	Bowdoin	22	Hancock	1				
1785	Bowdoin	24						
1786	Bowdoin	31						
1787	Hancock	84	Lincoln	4				
1788	Hancock	29	Gerry	32				
1789	Hancock	48	Lincoln	7	Bowdoin	1		
1790	Hancock	37						
1791	Hancock	45						
1792	Hancock	25	Phillips	9				
1793	Hancock	46						
1794	Adams	57	Sumner	10				
1795	Adams	46	Cushing		Scattering	1		
1796	Sumner	38	Adams	18				
1797	Sumner	47	Sullivan	31				
1798	Sumner	48						
1799	Sullivan	49						
1800	Gerry	86	Strong	25				
1801	Strong	33	Gerry	60				
1802	Strong	63	Gerry	44	Scattering	1		
1803	Strong	64	Gerry	32				
1804	Strong	61	Sullivan	31				
1805	Strong	68	Sullivan	59	Scattering	1		
1806	Strong	75	Sullivan	75				
1807	Strong	84	Sullivan	59	Scattering	1		
1808	Gore	86	Sullivan	51	Scattering	4		
1809	Gore	92	Lincoln	47				
1810	Gore	98	Gerry	50	Scattering	1		
1811	Gore	89	Gerry	54				
1812	Strong	122	Gerry	50	Scattering	1		
1813	Strong	117	Varnum	49				
1814	Strong	117	Dexter	47				
1815	Strong	119	Dexter	54				
1816	Brooks	131	Dexter	56				
1817	Brooks	122	Dearborn	42	Scattering	1		
1818	Brooks	107	Crowninshield	29				
1819	Brooks	111	Crowninshield	33	Scattering	1		
1820	Brooks	119	Eustis	48				
1821	Brooks	110	Eustis	37				
1822	Brooks	104	Eustis	42				
1823	Otis	116	Eustis	75				
1824	Lathrop	119	Eustis	95				
1825	Lincoln	139			Scattering	6		
1826	Lincoln	113	Lloyd	7	Scattering	4		
1827	Lincoln	133			Scattering	1		
1828	Lincoln	116	Morton	10				
1829	Lincoln	90	Morton	41				
1830	Lincoln	77	Morton	65	Scattering	4		

Year	Name of Candidate	No. of Votes	Name of Candidate	No. of Votes	Name of Candidate	No. of Votes	Name of Candidate	No. of Votes
1831	Lincoln	101	Morton	53	Scattering	1		
1831	Lincoln	103	Morton	52	Scattering	3		
1832	Lincoln	152	Morton	74				
1833	Davis	87	Morton	66	Scattering	16		
1834	Lincoln	127	Fisher	59				
1835	Everett	98	Morton	75				
1836	Everett	139	Morton	95				
1837	Everett	141	Morton	74				
1838	Everett	157	Morton	106	Scattering	15		
1839	Everett	162	Morton	152				
1840	Davis	204	Morton	139	Scattering	12		
1841	Davis	160	Morton	111	Boltwood	28		
1842	Davis	160	Morton	133	Sewall	31		
1843	Briggs	159	Morton	138	Sewall	41		
1844	Briggs	164	Bancroft	126	Sewall	46		
1845	Briggs	130	Davis	83	Sewall	37		
1846	Briggs	127	Davis	86	Sewall	35		
1847	Briggs	123	Cushing	77	Sewall	37		
1848	Briggs	102	Cushing	69	Phillips	88		
1849	Briggs	124	Boutwell	79	Phillips	58		
1850	Briggs	95	Boutwell	90	Phillips	91		
1851	Winthrop	128	Boutwell	111	Palfrey	97		
1852	Clifford	122	Bishop	120	Mann	112		
1853	Washburn	136	Bishop	106	Wilson	101		
1854	Gardner	134	Bishop	38	Wilson	59	Washburn	63
1855	Rockwell	164	Beach	96	Gardner	108	Walley	18
1856	Gardner	251	Beach	85	Scattering	10		
1857	Banks	176	Gardner	91	Beach	73	Scattering	5
1858	Banks	182	Lawrence	56	Beach	64		
1859	Banks	125	Butler	98				
1860	Andrew	282	Beach	99				
1861	Andrew	184	Davis	59				
1862	Andrew	210	Devens	109				
1863	Andrew	160	Paine	89				
1864	Andrew	278	Paine	83				
1865	Bullock	185	Couch	32				
1866	Bullock	234	Sweetser	40				
1867	Bullock	253	Adams	130				
1868	Claflin	295	Adams	89				
1869	Claflin	169	Adams	81				
1870	Claflin	233	Adams	111				
1871	Washburn	144	Pitman	89				
1872	Washburn	268	Bird	71				
1873	Washburn	105	Gaston	97				
1874	Talbot	215	Gaston	154				
1875	Rice	157	Gaston	136				
1876	Rice	186	Adams	107	Baker	61		
1877	Rice	108	Gaston	77				
1878	Talbot	185	Butler	96				
1879	Long	181	Butler	80				
1880	Long	227	Thompson	65				
1881	Long	113	Thompson	24				
1882	Bishop	178	Butler	97				
1883	Robinson	210	Butler	133				
1884	Robinson	219	Endicott	96				
1885	Robinson	149	Prince	67	Lothrop	15		

The county of Worcester was incorporated when the territory of Ashburnham was an unnamed wilderness. The relations of this town to the county was an inheritance in which the inhabitants had no voice, but they did not long remain silent after they became members of the corporation. Situated on the borders of the county and remote from the shire town, the voters of Ashburnham have debated many projects concerning a change of county lines or the creation of a new county. Some of these have been entertained with considerable favor. The discussion began one hundred years ago and has been renewed at frequent intervals. The old county remains unchanged and so do the advocates of a new one. One movement began in 1784 and extended through several years. To the first convention this town voted not to send a delegate, but in a convention held in Lunenburg in 1785, the town was represented by Samuel Wilder. At this time it was finally proposed to create a new county comprising towns in Worcester and Middlesex counties. To this proposal Ashburnham finally dissented and withdrew from the movement.

In 1786, the town voted not to join with the petitioners of Petersham for a new county but were found ready to encourage the movement for a division of Worcester county which occurred soon after. To a convention held in Leominster in 1794 the town sent Samuel Wilder. The convention recommended the creation of a new county and this town chose Abraham Lowe, Samuel Wilder and Jacob Willard to petition the General Court. As a result of the solicitation of this and other towns the General Court in 1798 submitted the question to the voters of the county. The vote of this town was sixty-four in favor of a division of the county and five opposed. Immediately after the vote was taken in the county a convention was held in Templeton in

which the town was represented by Joseph Jewett, but the measure in the mean time was defeated and the town took no action on the report of the delegate to the convention. Concerning the subsequent efforts that have been made to divide the county of Worcester the sentiment of the town of Ashburnham was divided but the county remains with its generous dómain and extensive boundaries.

MAGISTRATES.—In colonial times the Justices of the Peace were commissioned in the name of the king and the office was regarded as one of marked distinction. Upon the adoption of the State Constitution the appointment was vested in the governor, yet the duties and prerogatives of the office were not materially changed and a peculiar dignity continued to attend the office. In later years, appointments have been bestowed with greater freedom and the number of persons qualified for the position, both by education and a knowledge of legal forms and proceedings, is so numerous that the magistrates of the present time, surrounded by men of equal influence and eminence, do not enjoy the distinction that once attended the position. The only person appointed to this office in this town by royal favor, was Samuel Wilder. For many years he was the only magistrate in Ashburnham. Joshua Smith, who came to this town in 1785, was styled Esquire Smith and before he removed hither he had been a Justice of the Peace in Southborough, but no record of his appointment after his removal to this town has been found. In the following list of the Justices of the Peace the first column gives the date of the first appointment. At the close of seven years the commissions generally have been renewed.

1772.	Samuel Wilder	died May 9, 1798
1796.	Jacob Willard	died February 22, 1808
1798.	Abraham Lowe	died October 23, 1834
1811.	George R. Cushing	died February 2, 1851

1813.	Joseph Jewett	died May 3, 1846
1814.	Elisha White	died June 14, 1817
1820.	Stephen Corey	died October 7, 1823
1821.	Ivers Jewett	removed from town 1827
1825.	Silas Willard	commission expired October 1, 1852
1826.	Henry Adams	removed from town 1830
1827.	Hosea Stone	commission expired February 1, 1841
1830.	Nathaniel Pierce	" " June 12, 1851
1837.	George G. Parker	died December 14, 1852
1839.	Kilburn Harwood	removed from town 1845
1839.	Reuben Townsend	commission expired Feb. 3, 1860
1844.	Enoch Whitmore	died September 13, 1860
1847.	Charles Stearns	died July 11, 1874
1850.	John Petts—Trial Justice	commission expired 1857
1853.	Jerome W. Foster	died March 23, 1871
1853.	George Rockwood	died December 20, 1864
1855.	John L. Cummings	
1857.	Charles W. Burrage	removed from town 1859
1857.	William P. Ellis	
1857.	Albert H. Andrews	entered army 1861
1857.	Daniels Ellis, Jr.	
1858.	Ohio Whitney, Jr.	died February 6, 1879
1858.	Ivers Adams	commission expired May 16, 1872
1859.	William F. Burrage	removed from town 1867
1862.	Alfred Miller	removed from town 1863
1864.	Wilbur F. Whitney	
1867.	Alfred Whitmore	died January 4, 1873
1869.	Marshall Wetherbee	
1871.	George W. Eddy	
1873.	Austin Whitney	commission expired January 7, 1880
1873.	Melvin O. Adams	removed from town 1876
1873.	John H. Wilkins, Notary Public	
1877.	S. Joseph Bradlee	removed from town 1884
1878.	Samuel G. Newton	died July 23, 1884
1880.	George C. Foster	

A list of Moderators of the Annual March meeting, Town Clerks, Selectmen and Assessors, from the incorporation of the town to the present time.

1765. Moderator, Samuel Fellows. Clerk, William Whitcomb.
Selectmen, Samuel Fellows, Tristram Cheney, John Rich, James Coleman, Jonathan Gates.
Assessors, Samuel Wilder, William Joyner, John Bates.

1766. Moderator, Samuel Fellows. Clerk, William Whitcomb.
Selectmen, William Whitcomb, Tristram Cheney, John Rich, Elisha Coolidge, John Jones.
Assessors, the Selectmen.

1767. Moderator, Tristram Cheney. Clerk, William Joyner.
Selectmen, Tristram Cheney, Jona. Gates, John Kiblinger, John Jones, Samuel Wilder.
Assessors, William Whitcomb, Samuel Wilder, Tristram Cheney.

1768. Moderator, Samuel Fellows. Clerk, William Joyner.
Selectmen, Tristram Cheney, William Whitcomb, Samuel Fellows.
Assessors, the Selectmen.

1769. Moderator, Samuel Fellows. Clerk, Samuel Wilder.
Selectmen, John Kiblinger, Nathan Melvin, Samuel Fellows.
Assessors, Samuel Wilder, William Joyner, William Whitcomb.

1770. Moderator, Samuel Fellows. Clerk, Samuel Wilder.
Selectmen, Samuel Fellows, John Kiblinger, Ephraim Stone.
Assessors, Samuel Wilder, William Whitcomb, Nathan Melvin.

1771. Moderator, Samuel Fellows. Clerk, Samuel Wilder.
Selectmen, Ephraim Stone, Samuel Wilder, John Kiblinger.
Assessors, Samuel Wilder, William Whitcomb, Nathan Melvin.

1772. Moderator, William Whitcomb. Clerk, Samuel Wilder.
Selectmen, Samuel Wilder, Ephraim Stone, John Kiblinger.
Assessors, Samuel Wilder, William Whitcomb, John Willard.

1773. Moderator, William Whitcomb. Clerk, Samuel Wilder.
Selectmen, Samuel Wilder, Ephraim Stone, John Kiblinger.
Assessors, Samuel Wilder, William Whitcomb, Jonathan Taylor.

1774. Moderator, William Whitcomb. Clerk, Samuel Wilder.
Selectmen, Samuel Wilder, John Willard, Jonathan Taylor.
Assessors, the Selectmen.

1775. Moderator, Deliverance Davis. Clerk, Jacob Willard.
Selectmen, John Kiblinger, Samuel Nichols, Jonathan Gates, Oliver Stone, Amos Kendell.
Assessors, John Adams, John Conn, Ebenezer Hemenway.

1776. Moderator, William Whitcomb. Clerk, Samuel Wilder.
Selectmen, William Whitcomb, John Kiblinger, Oliver Willard.
Assessors, Samuel Wilder, Jacob Willard, John Adams.

1777. Moderator, William Whitcomb. Clerk, Samuel Wilder.
Selectmen, Samuel Wilder, John Willard, Jonathan Samson, Jonathan Taylor, Abijah Joslin.
Assessors, Samuel Wilder, William Wilder, Enos Jones, Joseph Metcalf, Francis Lane.

1778. Moderator, William Whitcomb. Clerk, Samuel Wilder.
Selectmen, John Conn, Oliver Willard, William Benjamin.
Assessors, Samuel Wilder, William Whitcomb, John Adams.

1779. Moderator, William Whitcomb. Clerk, Samuel Wilder.
Selectmen, John Conn, Oliver Willard, Amos Dickerson.
Assessors, Samuel Wilder, William Whitcomb, Jacob Harris.

1780. Moderator, Joseph Whitmore. Clerk, Samuel Wilder.
Selectmen, Samuel Wilder, Isaac Merriam, Francis Lane.

Assessors, Samuel Wilder, Jacob Harris, William Pollard.

1781. Moderator, George Dana. Clerk, Samuel Wilder.
Selectmen, Jacob Harris, Hezekiah Corey, Enos Jones.
Assessors, David Stedman, Jacob Harris, William Pollard.

1782. Moderator, Jacob Willard. Clerk, Samuel Wilder.
Selectmen, Samuel Wilder, Hezekiah Corey, Ebenezer Conant.
Assessors, Jacob Harris, Samuel Wilder, David Stedman.

1783. Moderator, Jacob Willard. Clerk, Samuel Wilder.
Selectmen, Samuel Wilder, Hezekiah Corey, Jacob Willard.
Assessors, Samuel Wilder, Jacob Harris, William Pollard.

1784. Moderator, Jacob Willard. Clerk, Samuel Wilder.
Selectmen, Samuel Wilder, Hezekiah Corey, Francis Lane.
Assessors, Samuel Wilder, Francis Lane, Jacob Harris.

1785. Moderator, Jacob Willard. Clerk, Samuel Wilder.
Selectmen, Samuel Wilder, Samuel Foster, John Conn.
Assessors, Jacob Harris, William Pollard, Jacob Willard.

1786. Moderator, Jacob Willard. Clerk, Samuel Wilder.
Selectmen, Joshua Smith, Samuel Wilder, Samuel Foster.
Assessors, Jacob Harris, William Pollard, Oliver Houghton.

1787. Moderator, Jacob Willard. Clerk, Samuel Wilder.
Selectmen, John Adams, Amos Dickerson, Jacob Kiblinger.
Assessors, Jacob Willard, Jacob Harris, John Adams.

1788. Moderator, Joshua Smith. Clerk, Samuel Wilder.
Selectmen, John Adams, Jacob Kiblinger, Samuel Foster.
Assessors, John Adams, John Abbott, Oliver Houghton.

1789. Moderator, Jacob Willard. Clerk, Samuel Wilder.
Selectmen, John Adams, Jacob Kiblinger, Samuel Foster.
Assessors, John Adams, Jacob Harris, Jacob Willard.

1790. Moderator, Jacob Willard. Clerk, Samuel Wilder.
Selectmen, Samuel Foster, Samuel Wilder, Jacob Willard.
Assessors, the Selectmen.

1791. Moderator, Jacob Willard. Clerk, Samuel Wilder.
Selectmen, Jacob Willard, John Gates, Jacob Kiblinger.
Assessors, Jacob Willard, Jacob Harris, Jacob Kiblinger.

1792. Moderator, Jacob Willard. Clerk, Abraham Lowe.
Selectmen, Samuel Foster, Francis Lane, Enos Jones.
Assessors, Jacob Harris, Samuel Wilder, William Pollard.

1793. Moderator, Samuel Wilder. Clerk, Abraham Lowe.
Selectmen, Samuel Wilder, Joseph Jewett, Jacob Kiblinger.
Assessors, the Selectmen.

1794. Moderator, Samuel Wilder. Clerk, Abraham Lowe.
Selectmen, Francis Lane, Enos Jones, Ebenezer Munroe.
Assessors, Samuel Wilder, Jacob Harris, Jacob Willard.

1795. Moderator, Jacob Willard. Clerk, Abraham Lowe.
Selectmen, Jacob Kiblinger, Joseph Jewett, John Conn.
Assessors, Matthias Mossman, Joseph Jewett, Caleb Ward.

1796. Moderator, Jacob Harris. Clerk, Abraham Lowe.
Selectmen, Jacob Willard, Samuel Wilder, Caleb Ward.
Assessors, Matthias Mossman, Jacob Harris, John Adams.

1797. Moderator, Jacob Willard. Clerk, Abraham Lowe.
Selectmen, Jacob Kiblinger, John Gates, William Stearns.
Assessors, Matthias Mossman, Abraham Lowe, Elisha White.

1798. Moderator, Jacob Willard. Clerk, Abraham Lowe.
Selectmen, John Gates, William Stearns, Abraham Lowe.
Assessors, Samuel Wilder, Joseph Jewett, Jacob Harris.

1799. Moderator, Joseph Jewett. Clerk, Elisha White.
Selectmen, Elisha White, David Cushing, Jacob Kiblinger.
Assessors, David Cushing, Joseph Jewett, Jacob Kiblinger.

1800. Moderator, Joseph Jewett. Clerk, Joseph Jewett.
Selectmen, Joseph Jewett, Jacob Kiblinger, John Adams, Hezekiah Corey, Caleb Ward.
Assessors, Joseph Jewett, John Adams, Jacob Kiblinger.

1801. Moderator, Jacob Willard. Clerk, Joseph Jewett.
Selectmen, Jacob Willard, Ebenezer Munroe, Jacob Constantine.
Assessors, Jacob Willard, Jacob Constantine, Elisha White.

1802. Moderator, Ebenezer Munroe. Clerk, Joseph Jewett.
Selectmen, Ebenezer Munroe, John Gates, David Cushing.
Assessors, Joseph Jewett, David Cushing, Samuel Cotting.

1803. Moderator, Ebenezer Munroe. Clerk, Joseph Jewett.
Selectmen, David Cushing, John Gates, Caleb Ward.
Assessors, Joseph Jewett, David Cushing, John Adams.

1804. Moderator, Ebenezer Munroe. Clerk, Joseph Jewett.
Selectmen, Ebenezer Munroe, Amos Pierce, Hezekiah Corey, Jr.
Assessors, Elisha White, Hezekiah Corey, Jr., Silas Willard.

1805. Moderator, Jacob Willard. Clerk, Joseph Jewett.
Selectmen, Amos Pierce, Hezekiah Corey, Jr., Thomas Hobart.
Assessors, Elisha White, David Cushing, Samuel Gates.

1806. Moderator, Jacob Willard. Clerk, Joseph Jewett.
Selectmen, Thomas Hobart, Joseph Jewett, Lemuel Stimson.
Assessors, Elisha White, Silas Willard, Samuel Gates.

1807. Moderator, Jacob Willard. Clerk, Joseph Jewett.
Selectmen, Thomas Hobart, Joseph Jewett, Lemuel Stimson.
Assessors, Elisha White, Silas Willard, John Adams, Jr.

1808. Moderator, Caleb Wilder. Clerk, Joseph Jewett.
Selectmen, Joseph Jewett, Thomas Hobart, Lemuel Stimson.
Assessors, Elisha White, Silas Willard, John Adams, Jr.

1809. Moderator, Elisha White. Clerk, Joseph Jewett.
Selectmen, Joseph Jewett, Thomas Hobart, Lemuel Stimson.
Assessors, Elisha White, Silas Willard, John Adams, Jr.

1810. Moderator, Caleb Wilder. Clerk, Joseph Jewett.
Selectmen, Elisha White, Silas Willard, Samuel Gates.
Assessors, the Selectmen.

1811. Moderator, Elisha White. Clerk, Joseph Jewett.
Selectmen, Elisha White, Silas Willard, Stephen Corey.
Assessors, Joseph Jewett, Silas Willard, Ebenezer Munroe.

1812. Moderator, Caleb Wilder. Clerk, Joseph Jewett.
Selectmen, Joseph Jewett, Silas Willard, Stephen Corey.
Assessors, the Selectmen.

1813. Moderator, Caleb Wilder. Clerk, Joseph Jewett.
Selectmen, Silas Willard, John Willard, Asa Woods.
Assessors, the Selectmen.

1814. Moderator, Caleb Wilder. Clerk, Joseph Jewett.
Selectmen, Elisha White, John Willard, William J. Lawrence.
Assessors, the Selectmen.

1815. Moderator, George R. Cushing. Clerk, Joseph Jewett.
Selectmen, Joseph Jewett, John Willard, John Adams, Jr.
Assessors, Elisha White, Silas Willard, Stephen Corey.

1816. Moderator, Caleb Wilder. Clerk, Ivers Jewett.
Selectmen, Joseph Jewett, John Willard, John Adams, Jr.
Assessors, Elisha White, Stephen Corey, Jacob Harris, Jr.

1817. Moderator, Caleb Wilder. Clerk, Ivers Jewett.
Selectmen, John Willard, John Adams, Jr., Stephen Corey.
Assessors, Elisha White, Stephen Corey, Jacob Harris, Jr.

1818. Moderator, George R. Cushing. Clerk, Ivers Jewett.
Selectmen, Joseph Jewett, Stephen Corey, John Adams, Jr.
Assessors, the Selectmen.

1819. Moderator, Joseph Jewett. Clerk, Ivers Jewett.
Selectmen, Stephen Corey, John Adams, Jr., Thomas Hobart.
Assessors, Stephen Corey, Silas Willard, Joel Foster.

1820. Moderator, George R. Cushing. Clerk, Ivers Jewett.
Selectmen, Joseph Jewett, Thomas Hobart, John Adams, Jr.

Assessors, Joseph Jewett, John Adams, Jr., Silas Willard.

1821. Moderator, Joseph Jewett. Clerk, Ivers Jewett.
Selectmen, Joseph Jewett, Thomas Hobart, John Adams, Jr.
Assessors, Joseph Jewett, Silas Willard, Hezekiah Corey.

1822. Moderator, Joseph Jewett. Clerk, Ivers Jewett.
Selectmen, John Adams, Jr., Hosea Stone, Timothy Stearns.
Assessors, the Selectmen.

1823. Moderator, George R. Cushing. Clerk, Ivers Jewett.
Selectmen, Joseph Jewett, Silas Willard, Reuben Townsend, Jr.
Assessors, the Selectmen.

1824. Moderator, Joseph Jewett. Clerk, Joseph Jewett.
Selectmen, Silas Willard, Hezekiah Corey, John Adams, Jr.
Assessors, Silas Willard, John Adams, Jr., Enoch Whitmore.

1825. Moderator, George R. Cushing. Clerk, Hosea Stone.
Selectmen, Charles Barrett, Elias Lane, Oliver Marble.
Assessors, Joseph Jewett, Hosea Stone, Benjamin Barrett.

1826. Moderator, George R. Cushing. Clerk, Hosea Stone.
Selectmen, Charles Barrett, Elias Lane, Samuel Dunster.
Assessors, Hosea Stone, Enoch Whitmore, John Willard, Jr.

1827. Moderator, Joseph Jewett. Clerk, Hosea Stone.
Selectmen, Charles Barrett, Reuben Townsend, Jr., Enoch Whitmore.
Assessors, the Selectmen.

1828. Moderator, Joseph Jewett. Clerk, Hosea Stone.
Selectmen, Charles Barrett, Reuben Townsend, Jr., Asahel Corey.
Assessors, the Selectmen.

1829. Moderator, Joseph Jewett. Clerk, Hosea Stone.
Selectmen, Asahel Corey, Thomas Bennett, Joseph Jewett.

Assessors, the Selectmen.

1830. Moderator, George R. Cushing. Clerk, Hosea Stone.
Selectmen, Asahel Corey, Amos Pierce, Jr., Charles Stearns.
Assessors, the Selectmen.

1831. Moderator, Ebenezer Frost. Clerk, Hosea Stone.
Selectmen, Asahel Corey, Amos Pierce, Jr., Charles Stearns.
Assessors, the Selectmen.

1832. Moderator, Ebenezer Frost. Clerk, Hosea Stone.
Selectmen, Asahel Corey, Amos Pierce, Jr., Charles Stearns,
Assessors, the Selectmen.

1833. Moderator, Ebenezer Frost. Clerk, Charles Stearns.
Selectmen, Amos Pierce, Jr., Jehiel Watkins, Kilburn Harwood.
Assessors, Asahel Corey, Amos Pierce, Jr., Charles Stearns.

1834. Moderator, Ebenezer Frost. Clerk, Charles Stearns.
Selectmen, Kilburn Harwood, Reuben Townsend, Jr., Charles Davis.
Assessors, the Selectmen.

1835. Moderator, George R. Cushing. Clerk, Charles Stearns.
Selectmen, Asahel Corey, Charles Davis, Ebenezer Frost.
Assessors, the Selectmen.

1836. Moderator, Kilburn Harwood. Clerk, Charles Stearns.
Selectmen, Asahel Corey, Ebenezer Frost, Jehiel Watkins.
Assessors, the Selectmen.

1837. Moderator, Kilburn Harwood. Clerk, Charles Stearns.
Selectmen, Asahel Corey, Kilburn Harwood, Charles Barrett.
Assessors, the Selectmen.

1838. Moderator, Kilburn Harwood. Clerk, Charles Stearns.
Selectmen, Kilburn Harwood, Reuben Townsend, John C. Glazier.
Assessors, Nathaniel Pierce, Ebenezer Frost, Stephen Corey.

1839. Moderator, Kilburn Harwood. Clerk, Charles Stearns.
Selectmen, John C. Glazier, Ebenezer Frost, Ohio Whitney.
Assessors, the Selectmen.

1840. Moderator, Reuben Townsend. Clerk, Charles Stearns.
Selectmen, George G. Parker, Reuben Townsend, Elias Lane.
Assessors, the Selectmen.

1841. Moderator, Reuben Townsend. Clerk, Charles Stearns.
Selectmen, George G. Parker, Reuben Townsend, Elias Lane.
Assessors, the Selectmen.

1842. Moderator, Kilburn Harwood. Clerk, Charles Stearns.
Selectmen, George G. Parker, Elias Lane, Harvey Brooks.
Assessors, the Selectmen.

1843. Moderator, Ebenezer Frost. Clerk, Charles Stearns.
Selectmen, Harvey Brooks, John C. Davis, Charles Barrett.
Assessors, Hosea Green, Walter Russell, Jerome W. Foster.

1844. Moderator, Ebenezer Frost. Clerk, Charles Stearns.
Selectmen, Charles Barrett, Kilburn Harwood, Ohio Whitney.
Assessors, the Selectmen.

1845. Moderator, Ebenezer Frost. Clerk, Charles Stearns.
Selectmen, George G. Parker, Ohio Whitney, Emery Fairbanks.
Assessors, the Selectmen.

1846. Moderator, Gilman Jones. Clerk, Charles Stearns.
Selectmen, Emery Fairbanks, Ohio Whitney, George G. Parker.
Assessors, the Selectmen.

1847. Moderator, Ebenezer Frost. Clerk, Charles Stearns.
Selectmen, George G. Parker, Ohio Whitney, Jerome W. Foster.
Assessors, the Selectmen.

1848. Moderator, Ohio Whitney, Jr. Clerk, Charles Stearns.
Selectmen, Jerome W. Foster, Charles Stearns, Antipas Maynard.
Assessors, the Selectmen.

1849. Moderator, Ohio Whitney, Jr. Clerk, Charles Stearns.
Selectmen, Jerome W. Foster, Antipas Maynard, John A. Conn.
Assessors, the Selectmen.

1850. Moderator, Enoch Whitmore. Clerk, Charles Stearns.
Selectmen, George G. Parker, John A. Conn, Ivers Adams.
Assessors, Ohio Whitney, Enoch Whitmore, Pyam Burr.

1851. Moderator, Ohio Whitney, Jr. Clerk, Charles Stearns.
Selectmen, George G. Parker, Ivers Adams, Jerome W. Foster.
Assessors, the Selectmen.

1852. Moderator, Ohio Whitney, Jr. Clerk, Charles Stearns.
Selectmen, Antipas Maynard, Joseph P. Rice, Walter Russell.
Assessors, the Selectmen.

1853. Moderator, Enoch Whitmore. Clerk, Charles Stearns.
Selectmen, Antipas Maynard, Joseph P. Rice, Jerome W. Foster.
Assessors, the Selectmen.

1854. Moderator, Enoch Whitmore. Clerk, Charles Stearns.
Selectmen, Jerome W. Foster, John A. Conn, Ohio Whitney, Jr.
Assessors, the Selectmen.

1855. Moderator, Ohio Whitney, Jr. Clerk, Charles Stearns.
Selectmen, Jerome W. Foster, Ohio Whitney, Jr., Henry Lawrence.
Assessors, the Selectmen.

1856. Moderator, Joel H. Litch. Clerk, Charles Stearns.
Selectmen, John A. Conn, Elliot Moore, Ohio Whitney, Jr.
Assessors, the Selectmen.

1857. Moderator, Enoch Whitmore. Clerk, William P. Ellis.
Selectmen, Elliot Moore, George S. Burrage, George Rockwood.
Assessors, John A. Conn, Daniels Ellis, Jr., Ezra Randall.

1858. Moderator, Ohio Whitney, Jr. Clerk, William P. Ellis.
Selectmen, George S. Burrage, Joel H. Litch, Addison A. Walker.
Assessors, John A. Conn, Joel H. Litch, Perley Howe.

1859. Moderator, Ohio Whitney, Jr. Clerk, William P. Ellis.
Selectmen, Addison A. Walker, Elliot Moore, Leonard Foster.
Assessors, John A. Conn, Perley Howe, John G. Woodward.

1860. Moderator, Ohio Whitney, Jr. Clerk, Jerome W. Foster.
Selectmen, Addison A. Walker, Leonard Foster, Simeon Merritt.
Assessors, Perley Howe, Jerome W. Foster, John G. Woodward.

1861. Moderator, Ohio Whitney, Jr. Clerk, Jerome W. Foster.
Selectmen, Simeon Merritt, Jesse Parker, Isaac D. Ward.
Assessors, Jerome W. Foster, Perley Howe, Charles Winchester.

1862. Moderator, Ohio Whitney, Jr. Clerk, Jerome W. Foster.
Selectmen, Jesse Parker, Isaac D. Ward, William P. Ellis.
Assessors, the Selectmen.

1863. Moderator, Ohio Whitney, Jr. Clerk, Jerome W. Foster.
Selectmen, Isaac D. Ward, Perley Howe, Elbridge Stimson.
Assessors, the Selectmen.

1864. Moderator, Ohio Whitney, Jr. Clerk, Jerome W. Foster.
Selectmen, Ohio Whitney, Jr., Marshall Wetherbee, Nathaniel L. Eaton.
Assessors, William P. Ellis, Joel H. Litch, Perley Howe.

1865. Moderator, Joel H. Litch. Clerk, Jerome W. Foster.

Selectmen, Charles F. Rockwood, William F. Burrage, John G. Woodward.

Assessors, Perley Howe, Joel H. Litch, Joel F. Metcalf.

1866. Moderator, Ohio Whitney, Jr. Clerk, Jerome W. Foster.

Selectmen, Charles F. Rockwood, William F. Burrage, John G. Woodward.

Assessors Joel H. Litch, Joel F. Metcalf, Marshall Wetherbee.

1867. Moderator, Harvey D. Jillson. Clerk, Jerome W. Foster.

Selectmen, Charles F. Rockwood, Elbridge Stimson, Francis A. Whitney.

Assessors, Joel H. Litch, William P. Ellis, Europe H. Fairbanks.

1868. Moderator, Ohio Whitney, Jr. Clerk, Jerome W. Foster.

Selectmen, Elbridge Stimson, Jerome W. Foster, Addison A. Walker.

Assessors, John L. Cummings, Austin Whitney, Luke Marble.

1869. Moderator, John B. Thompson. Clerk, Jerome W. Foster.

Selectmen, Franklin Russell, Simeon Merritt, Nathaniel L. Eaton.

Assessors, Newton Hayden, John L. Cummings, Theodore Greenwood.

1870. Moderator, Ohio Whitney, Jr. Clerk, Jerome W. Foster.

Selectmen, Franklin Russell, Jesse Parker, Addison A. Walker.

Assessors, Austin Whitney, John L. Cummings, Theodore Greenwood.

1871. Moderator, Ohio Whitney. Clerk, Jerome W. Foster.

Selectmen, Franklin Russell, Jesse Parker, George E. Davis.

Assessors, Austin Whitney, John L. Cummings, Theodore Greenwood.

1872. Moderator, Ohio Whitney. Clerk, Newton Hayden.

Selectmen, Simeon Merritt, George E. Davis, Addison A. Walker.

Assessors, John L. Cummings, Theodore Greenwood, George C. Foster.

1873. Moderator, Ohio Whitney. Clerk, Newton Hayden.
Selectmen, Simeon Merritt, John L. Cummings, George E. Davis.
Assessors, John L. Cummings, Theodore Greenwood, Jesse Parker.

1874. Moderator, Melvin O. Adams. Clerk, Newton Hayden.
Selectmen, Simeon Merritt, Austin Whitney, Martin B. Lane.
Assessors, Austin Whitney, Walter R. Adams, Marshall Wetherbee.

1875. Moderator, Melvin O. Adams. Clerk, Newton Hayden.
Selectmen, Simeon Merritt, Austin Whitney, Martin B. Lane.
Assessors, Walter R. Adams, Marshall Wetherbee, John L. Cummings.

1876. Moderator, Melvin O. Adams. Clerk, Newton Hayden.
Selectmen, Simeon Merritt, Nathaniel Pierce, Benjamin E. Wetherbee.
Assessors, John L. Cummings, Marshall Wetherbee, Franklin Russell.

1877. Moderator, John H. Wilkins. Clerk, George F. Stevens.
Selectmen, John L. Cummings, Nathaniel Pierce, Benjamin E. Wetherbee.
Assessors, the Selectmen.

1878. Moderator, John H. Wilkins. Clerk, George F. Stevens.
Selectmen, John L. Cummings, Nathaniel Pierce, Benjamin E. Wetherbee.
Assessors, the Selectmen.

1879. Moderator, John H. Wilkins. Clerk, George F. Stevens.
Selectmen, John L. Cummings, Nathaniel Pierce, Benjamin E. Wetherbee.
Assessors, the Selectmen.

1880. Moderator, John H. Wilkins. Clerk, George F. Stevens.

Selectmen, Simeon Merritt, Charles T. Litch, Orange Whitney.

Assessors, Walter R. Adams, Francis A. Whitney, Charles W. Whitney, 2d.

1881. Moderator, John H. Wilkins. Clerk, George F. Stevens.

Selectmen, Simeon Merritt, Charles T. Litch, John M. Pratt.

Assessors, Walter R. Adams, Francis A. Whitney, Charles W. Whitney, 2d.

1882. Moderator, John H. Wilkins. Clerk, George F. Stevens.

Selectmen, Simeon Merritt, Charles T. Litch, John M. Pratt.

Assessors, Francis A. Whitney, Charles F. Rockwood. Charles E. Woodward.

1883. Moderator, John H. Wilkins. Clerk, George F. Stevens,

Selectmen, Charles T. Litch, Edward S. Flint, Charles H. Pratt.

Assessors, Benjamin E. Wetherbee, Daniels Ellis, Jr., Charles E. Woodward.

1884. Moderator, John H. Wilkins. Clerk, George F. Stevens.

Selectmen, Charles T. Litch, Edward S. Flint, Charles H. Pratt.

Assessors, John L. Cummings, Walter R. Adams, Henry C. Newell.

1885. Moderator, John H. Wilkins. Clerk, George F. Stevens.

Selectmen, Charles T. Litch, Charles H. Pratt, Edward S. Flint.

Assessors, John L. Cummings, Walter R. Adams, Henry C. Newell.

CHAPTER VIII.

ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY.

EARLY MEASURES TO SECURE PREACHING. — REV. ELISHA HARDING. — CALL AND ORDINATION OF REV. JONATHAN WINCHESTER. — A CHURCH EMBODIED. — THE COVENANT. — ORIGINAL MEMBERSHIP. — ADDITIONS. — THE FIRST DEACONS. — DEATH OF MR. WINCHESTER. — HIS CHARACTER. — CALL AND ORDINATION OF REV. JOHN CUSHING. — A LONG AND SUCCESSFUL MINISTRY. — AN ERA OF CONCORD. — DISCIPLINE WITHOUT ASPERITY. — HALF WAY COVENANT. — DEATH OF MR. CUSHING. — HIS CHARACTER. — CALL AND ORDINATION OF REV. GEORGE PERKINS. — INSTALLATION OF REV. GEORGE GOODYEAR. — REV. EDWIN JENNISON. — REV. ELNATHAN DAVIS. — REV. FREDERICK A. FISKE. — REV. ELBRIDGE G. LITTLE. — REV. THOMAS BOUTELLE. — REV. GEORGE E. FISHER. — REV. MOODY A. STEVENS. — REV. LEONARD S. PARKER. — REV. DANIEL E. ADAMS. — REV. JOSIAH D. CROSBY. — A VACANCY. — THE DEACONS.

TWENTY YEARS the meeting-house in Dorchester Canada invited occupancy before there was a settled minister. During this period there were occasional supplies but more frequently the settlers attended church in Lunenburg, where Moses Foster, James Coleman, Unity Brown, John Bates, Thomas Wheeler and others were in full or covenant relations. The church records of Lunenburg represent that many of the children born in Dorchester Canada previous to 1760 were baptized there. It is not known who preached or who assembled to hear the first sermon in the township and previous to the advent of Mr. Winchester the name of only one minister is found in the records. It is probable that the settlers sought and on week days sometimes enjoyed the friendly services of the clergy of Lunenburg, Townsend

and Westminster. Any other supply that was secured by the settlers without the intervention of the proprietors would escape mention in the records.

The humble plans of the settlement to secure preaching and the accumulating purpose reflected in the successive votes on the subject afford a renewed illustration of the fact that all our present privileges have sprung from unpretentious beginnings. Their first proposals were scarcely more than the suggestion of a prophecy of what has been accomplished. In 1750 the proprietors decide "not to prosecute the affair of calling a minister," but the following year they are found ready to order "that an Orthodox minister be applied to, to agree to preach the Gospel every four weeks if suitable weather." No money or committee was provided to carry the vote into effect. It was a timid proposition. Possibly they viewed their proceedings in this light, since in 1753, an earnest purpose is reflected in the vote "that Mr. Joseph Wheelock, Mr. Caleb Wilder and Mr. Benjamin Bigelow be a committee to see that a Gospel minister preach in said township until further orders of the propriety." None of the committee resided in the township and it is quite probable that they failed to meet the desires of the proprietors and particularly of those who had removed to the settlement. At the succeeding meeting the language becomes more emphatic. It assumes the dignity of a command. "Voted that eighteen pounds be put into the hands of Mr. Foster to be applied by him to secure preaching." Moses Foster had resided in the township several years. If he did not secure a minister it was not through a failure of personal interest or of his instructions; but to provide against every emergency there was a supplementary vote that Nathan Melvin, also a resident, coöperate with Mr. Foster. In 1755 an appropriation was made for current

expenses including preaching but no specific sum was set apart for this purpose. Between this date and the settlement of Mr. Winchester several payments were made on this account, but the records only preserve the name of Rev. Elisha Harding, who received four pounds "for preaching in Dorchester Canada." Mr. Harding was settled in Brookfield, Massachusetts, September 13, 1749, and dismissed May 8, 1755. In May, 1759, another appropriation of eighteen pounds was made and Captain Caleb Dana of Cambridge and John Bates and Elisha Coolidge of Dorchester Canada were selected "to provide preaching in said township." The early efforts of this committee introduced to the settlement Rev. Jonathan Winchester. The candidate was favorably received. A call was extended November 27, 1759, and he was ordained April 23, 1760. The story of the call and the ordination is briefly outlined in the records.

1759 Oct. 22. To appoint a committee to treat and agree with Mr. Jonathan Winchester, who has been preaching the Gospel there for some time past, concerning his settling in the work of the ministry there.

1759 Nov. 22. Voted that their should be twenty shillings lawful money Laid as a tax upon each Common Right yearly as a salary for Mr. Jonathan Winchester provided he shall settle in said township as a Gospel minister. One moitie thereof to be paid at the end of six months from the time he shall be agreed with to settle there and the other moietie in twelve months, annually, for the term of seven years or till such time as said township shall come into some other method of Raising said sum of money for his support.

Voted that there be twenty shillings Lawfull money Laid as a tax upon each Common Right as a Settlement for the above said Winchester if he shall settle as aforesaid, and to be paid to the treasurer by the time the said Winchester shall be ordained in said township.

Voted that Cap^{tn} Caleb Dana, Nathan Heywood, Cap^{tn} Caleb Wilder, M^{r} John Moffat and Mr. Benj^{a} Church be a Committee to treat and agree with Mr. Winchester concerning his settling in said township.

1760 Feb. 18. To hear the Report of the Committee appointed to treat and agree with M^{r} Jonathan Winchester concerning his settling in the work of the ministry there.

To grant and raise money for the expense of his ordination in case of his acceptance of the invitation given him.

1760 March 25. Voted that the place for ordination of M^{r} Winchester shall be in the township of Dorchester Canada.

Voted the time for ordaining M^{r} Winchester shall be on wednesday the twenty-third day of April next.

Voted that we apply to five churches to assist in ordaining M^{r} Winchester, that we send to the first Church in Cambridge, to the Church in Lunenburg, to the Church in Acton, to the Church in Lancaster and to the Church in Brookline to assist in said ordination.

Voted that each proprietor pay three shillings to defray the Cost and Charge of the ordination to be paid forthwith into the hands of the treasurer or other person or persons as the proprietors shall appoint to receive the same.

Voted that Mr Moses Foster, Capt Caleb Wilder and Capt Samuel Hunt be a Committee to provide for said ordination in as convenient a place as may be and that they or any of them be impowered to receive the money granted for that purpose.

Voted that Mr Winchester may fence in and improve the meeting House Lot being forty rods square where the meeting House now stands, provided he doth not incommode the County road nor obstruct or hinder the Burrying of the dead, the burying place being in that lot.

The ordination, as appears in these votes, was arranged by an exterior organization but the minister was settled over the people. If the proprietors directed the proceedings their duties ended with them. The future comprehended only the new relations between the pastor and his flock. An agreement was made with Mr. Winchester in January. Probably the ordination was intentionally deferred until the close of the winter season.

Beyond the mention of the churches invited there is no record of the council. The records of the church in Brookline contain the following entry under date of "April 13, 1760.—Lord's Day. The pastor communicated to the church a letter from the committee of Dorchester Canada desiring the assistance of this church in the ordination of Mr. Jonathan Winchester, whereupon the church voted to comply with this request and chose Messrs. White, Aspinwall, Croft, Isaac and Joseph Winchester to represent them.

"Upon the request of Mr. Winchester the church dismissed and recommended him to the fellowship of the Church in Dorchester Canada."

The pastor of the Brookline church at this time was Rev. Joseph Jackson. Joseph Winchester was a brother of the candidate and Mr. Croft, probably, was a relative of Mrs. Winchester. Rev. John Swift, pastor of the church in Acton, was one of the proprietors of the township. The invitations included the venerable Rev. Dr. Nathaniel Appleton of Cambridge and Rev. Timothy Harrington of Lancaster. Caleb Dana was a member of the church in Cambridge and the Wilders of the church in Lancaster. The records of the churches last named are incomplete, and while they contain no reference to the ordination of Mr. Winchester it is probable that all the churches invited were represented on the occasion. The invitation to the church in Lunenburg was significant. It was the voice of the settlement. Many of the settlers had been accustomed to worship there and Rev. David Stearns was the only minister they had known for many years. Without his presence the council would have been incomplete. The original letter of Mr. Winchester accepting the invitation of the proprietors, written in plain round characters, is preserved.

To Messrs. Caleb Dana, Caleb Wilder, Nathan Haywood, John Moffatt and Benjamin Church, a committee of the proprietors of the township called Dorchester Canada in the county of Worcester, to communicate to said proprietors:

Gentlemen,

Whereas you have given me, the subscriber, the most unworthy and undeserving, an invitation and call to settle in the important work of the Gospel Ministry at Dorchester Canada, I thank you for the respect and favour therein discovered to me.

After due consideration, asking advice, and especially seeking to the great Head of the Church for direction in so momentous and weighty an affair, esteeming your offers for my settlement

and support reasonable and generous and relying upon this (which will be of very great consequence with respect to my temporal interests and the comfortable subsistance of my family) viz.: that the right of land, which the first settled Gospel minister in the place is entitled to by the grant of the great and general court, be good and convenient for my settlement and that if the lots already appropriated to that purpose are not so, they be changed for lands more commodious, I have determined to accept your call and hereby do manifest my acceptance thereof. Asking your prayers and depending on Divine Grace for assistance that I may be enabled faithfully to discharge so important a trust and that my settling as a Gospel minister may be a means by the blessing of heaven of furthering the growth and prosperity of the place and promoting pure and undefiled religion in the hearts and lives of the inhabitants is the desire and prayer of, Gentlemen

Your devoted and most humble servant

JONATHAN WINCHESTER.

BROOKLINE, January 23, 1760.

The church was embodied the same day. Endorsing the prevailing creed of New England and desiring to enjoy the fellowship of the churches, it became necessary to adopt a covenant embracing the essential features of their faith. It would be expected that common forms of expression would be found in the covenants, but it further appears that the covenant approved by the church in Gardner in 1786 is substantially a copy of the declaration adopted at this time. The original covenant is still preserved and on the back are written the names of the thirteen male members, who were admitted at the embodiment of the church. The covenant and the names are as follows:

COVENANT.

We, whose names are hereunto subscribed, being as we apprehend called of God to enter into the Church State of the Gospel

for the free and constant enjoyment of God's Worship and Ordinances, do in the first place acknowledge our unworthiness to be so highly favored of God at the same time admiring and adoring the rich and free Grace of God that triumphs over so great unworthiness, with a humble dependence upon the Grace of God to enable us to do our duty, we would thankfully lay hold on his Covenant and choose the things that please Him.

We declare our serious and hearty belief of the Christian Religion as contained in the Sacred Scriptures and as usually embraced by the faithful in the Churches of New England, which is summarily exhibited (in the substance of it) in their confession of Faith; heartily resolving to conform our lives by the rule of Christ's holy Religion as long as we live in the world.

We give up ourselves to the Lord Jehovah who is the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit, we vouch him this day to be our God, our Father and our Savior and Leader and receive him as our portion forever.

We give up ourselves to the Blessed Jesus acknowledging His true Deity resolving to adhere to Him as the head of his people in the Covenant of Grace, and we do rely upon Him as our Prophet, Priest and King to bring us to eternal blessedness.

We acknowledge our everlasting and indisputable obligation to glorify God in all the Duties of a sober godly life and very particularly in the duties of a church state and a body of people associated for an Obedience to Him in all the ordinances of the Gospel and we hereupon depend on his Grace as sufficient for our faithful discharge of the Duties thus incumbent upon us.

We desire and also promise and engage with assistance to walk together as a church of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Faith and Order of the Gospel, so far as we do know the same, faithfully and conscientiously attending the Public Worship of God and the Sacrements of the New Testament. And that we will be observant of the rules and laws of Christ's Kingdom which regard the Discipline and Government of the Church as they have in general been administered among the churches before mentioned. And that we will attend all God's holy institutions in communion

with one another, watching over one another with a spirit of meekness, love and tenderness carefully avoiding all sinful stumbling blocks, strifes, contentions and that we will endeavor to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of Peace.

We do also present our Offspring with ourselves unto the Lord resolving with Divine Help to do our part in the Method of a Religious Education, that they may be the Lords, and that we will particularly be careful in our endeavor duly to sanctifie the Sabbath and to keep up Religion in our Families. And all this we do flying to the Blood of the everlasting Covenant for the pardon of all our sins, praying the glorious Head of the church who is the great Shepherd of the Sheep would prepare and strengthen us for every good work to do his will working in us that which will be pleasing in his sight, to whom be glory forever and ever.

JONATHAN WINCHESTER, *Pastor*
PHILIP VORBACK
CHRISTIAN WM. WHITEMAN
JOHN RICH
JACOB SCHOFFE
JOHN KIBLINGER
ELISHA COOLIDGE
UNITY BROWN
JOHN OBERLOCK
MOSES FOSTER
THOMAS WHEELER
JAMES COLEMAN
JOHN BATES

In the transcript of the covenant and signatures made by Mr. Cushing the name of Unity Brown is written Unight Brown probably from the fact that his Christian name was sometimes written Unite and incorrectly pronounced in two syllables. The wives of the original members united with the church at this time or soon after, but their names do not appear in the records. Mr. Winchester and his wife brought letters from the church in Brookline. Moses Foster, James

Coleman, Unity Brown and their wives were received on letters from the church in Lunenburg where they had maintained relations during their early residence in the settlement, and it is probable that some of the Germans presented letters from churches in their native land.

The additions to the church during the ministry of Mr. Winchester were Jeremiah Foster by profession, 1761; Samuel Fellows and wife, William Whitcomb and wife and Sarah Dickerson by letters from church in Harvard and Stephen Ames and wife by profession, 1762; Tristram Cheney and wife and Hannah Joyner by letter from church in Sudbury, Ebenezer Conant and wife from church in Concord, 1763; John Martin and wife, Samuel Fellows, Jr., and wife and Ebenezer Hemenway by profession, 1764; Jeremiah Foster, Jr., and Abraham Smith and wife by profession, 1765; Deliverance Davis and wife and Mary Whitman, wife of John Whitman, by profession, 1766; Daniel Merrill and wife, Sarah Foster, wife of Jeremiah Foster, Jr., and Job Coleman and wife, 1767. The whole number is forty-two, to which should be added the names of the females who were received at the organization of the church. The first deacons were Moses Foster and Samuel Fellows but a record of their election is not found. Beyond this outline of the results of his ministry, little is known of the labors and characteristics of Mr. Winchester. That he secured the love and respect of his people and was regarded as a most worthy and upright man is reflected in the measure of their sorrow at his death. The proprietors also manifested their esteem in a vote to make him a gratuity in addition to his stated salary. "Voted that the proprietors will grant Rev. Mr. Winchester £18 as a consideration of the extraordinary expense, he has been put to for two years past, on account of the high price of provisions." This action

occurred January 26, 1763, and is suggestive of the hardships and trials attending both the pastor and his people in a new settlement.

The death of Mr. Winchester, which occurred on Wednesday, November 26, 1767, was a serious loss to the young parish. At once they were bereft of a faithful pastor, a judicious counsellor and a sincere friend. Their established relations, their mutual plans, their brightest hopes of the future were ended by the sad event. That the people realized their loss and gave unmistakable expression of the deepest sorrow is announced in the records and confirmed by many traditions. The widow continued to reside in this town where she died July 27, 1794, and the name has never faded from the registers of the town.

Rev. Jonathan Winchester, son of Henry and Frances Winchester of Brookline, was born April 21, 1717. He was graduated at Harvard University 1737, and for several years was a school teacher in Brookline. He married May 5, 1748, Sarah Crofts, an educated and talented lady, of Brookline, where six of their ten children were born. If Mr. Winchester preached anywhere previous to his removal to this town the fact has not appeared. When he began preaching here he had not been ordained and consequently this was his first settlement in the ministry. If little has been found concerning the life and characteristics of Mr. Winchester, there is abundant evidence that he was a man of singular purity of character, a kind neighbor and an earnest and effective preacher. That he was respected and greatly beloved by his people is clearly reflected in the records, and that he was a man of earnest, steadfast purposes, of generous and friendly impulses, restrained by a firm adherence to the commands of duty, is supported by many traditions.

It is the testimony of Dr. Cushing that he lived in peace and was respected and beloved and when he died was much lamented. And his parish soon after his death engraved upon the tablet that marks his grave their appreciation of the minister whom they had loved.

THE GENTLEMAN, THE SCHOLAR AND THE CHRISTIAN WERE IN HIM CONSPICUOUS. AS A PREACHER, HE WAS ACCEPTABLE; AS A HUSBAND, TENDER; AS A PARENT, AFFECTIONATE; AS A NEIGHBOR, KIND; AS A FRIEND, SINCERE; FOR CANDOR, MEEKNESS, PATIENCE AND MODESTY REMARKABLE.

Integer vitæ, scelerisque purus.

A newspaper of the time, *The Boston Post Boy and Advertiser*, in the issue of December 28, 1767, announces the death of Mr. Winchester in these terms: "The latter end of November died at Ashburnham, long known by the name of Dorchester Canada, the Rev. Mr. Jonathan Winchester, Minister of the church in that town. A sensible, worthy man."

After the death of Mr. Winchester, the church "chose Deacon Moses Foster moderator while destitute of a pastor." "June 16, 1768, the church met and made choice of John Cushing for the minister with a full vote and chose Deacons Foster and Fellows and Brother Cheney as a committee to acquaint him of it." In this action of the church the town on the fourth of July unanimously concurred. "September 21, 1768, the church met and voted that the ordination of the pastor elect, John Cushing, should be on the second day of November following, and voted to send to seven churches." "Chose Deacon Fellows, Elisha Coolidge and Tristram Cheney to sign the letters missive." To this decision of the church the town promptly assented and made ample arrangements for the occasion.

The council, if all the invitations were accepted, was composed of Rev. Joseph Sumner of Shrewsbury, the successor of the father of Mr. Cushing; Rev. Ebenezer Morse, pastor of the North Parish, now Boylston; Rev. Ebenezer Parkman of Westboro', the father of the future wife of Mr. Cushing; Rev. Jacob Cushing of Waltham, a brother of the candidate; Rev. Asaph Rice of Westminster; Rev. Stephen Farrar of New Ipswich, at whose ordination Mr. Winchester had assisted and Rev. John Payson of Fitchburg.

In full sympathy with this sombre day in autumn and with hearts heavy with sorrow for their first minister, whom they had loved, the church and parish look to his successor with hope and courage. Many trivial affairs have made more display on the pages of the records but in its pervading and salutary influences in directing and moulding the sentiment of another generation, in the full measure of its results, the ordination of Mr. Cushing was a most memorable event in the annals of Ashburnham. The minister, in the robust strength and courage of early manhood, assumes the labors and burdens of a lifetime; while the people, entering an era of concord, willingly comply with the mild yet unyielding influences of his faithful ministrations.

The years of a successful ministry crowned with the rewards of peace and harmony are only the links in a continuous chain of similar events. They are so alike in outline, so connected in record, they cannot be regarded separately. The labor of Mr. Cushing began with his ordination and ended with his death. It admits of no divisions. For fifty-five and one-half years the course of his labor, like the flow of a river, was uninterrupted and onward. To measure the flood emptied into the sea we must notice the duration as well as the volume of the

current. Before his allotted work was scarce begun those aged at the time of his ordination had faded away; the middle-aged and those in the strength of early manhood grew old and also died; while yet with vigor unabated he ministered to their children and beneath his sight the youth he first beheld passed the stages of life and sunk beneath the weight of years. Without a change of scene his charge and congregation were many times renewed.

The registers of the church during his ministry are a continued record of wisdom in administration and freedom from any serious contention. At the beginning the town was united in religious opinions and in harmony with the creed of the church. At a later period the pastor and the church found frequent employment in dealing with an increasing number of dissenters. First, a few announcing a change of opinion on the doctrine of baptism desired to withdraw and unite with those of kindred faith, and early within the present century a larger number withdrew and united with the Methodists. Compared with the prevailing usage and practice of the times a liberal policy was pursued and a commendable measure of forbearance and toleration was exercised. In a review of the position of the church in these proceedings Mr. Cushing says, — "There has generally been manifested a disposition that each should enjoy liberty of conscience. I have uniformly endeavored to exercise charity towards dissenters and to avoid asperity and censoriousness. And the reflection that I have thus endeavored affords satisfaction. In exercising the discipline of Christ's kingdom I have aimed to avoid severity. I have ofter thought of an observation of the bishop of St. Asaph as worthy of regard: 'The art of government consists in not governing too much.'"

The great embarrassment of the church rested in the fact that each measure of discipline on questions of faith was

answered by a request for a letter of dismissal and recommendation. This they could not grant without officially recognizing a church of another denomination and that, for many years, they would not do. The church also maintained that a withdrawal without leave was amenable to discipline and that a dismissal could not be granted until the offending persons had given satisfaction to the church. A candid review of these proceedings must lead to the conclusion that the church in fact was laid under the sternest discipline and wisely profited by it. With a laudable degree of justice and in advance of the practice of the churches in this vicinity the church in Ashburnham began to grant dismissals when requested and to give a general certificate of good moral character. This procedure at once freed the church from a perpetual season of discipline and left the dissenters, armed with a commendation "to whom it may concern," at full liberty to follow the leadings of duty or inclination.

In 1778, the following persons were dismissed upon their declaration that they had changed their sentiments in respect to Infant Baptism, the manner of supporting the Gospel, and of admitting church members: Elisha Coolidge, Ebenezer Conant, Ebenezer Conant, Jr., and wife, Nathan Putnam and wife, Nathan Bigelow and wife, Jacob Willard and wife, Jacob Constantine and wife, John Martin and wife, and John Bigelow. Upon their dismissal they were favored with the following letter:

Whereas Elisha Coolidge and others, members of this church, have withdrawn themselves from this church and plead their changing their religious sentiments with respect to Infant Baptism, etc., as the reason, and that they can't in conscience hold communion with us as heretofore and desiring a dismission from their relations to this church, *These* are to signify that we would

not forcibly detain them or hold them against their consent, but do dismiss them from their relations to us and certify withal that before they withdrew from communion with us they were free from scandal and while they appeared before the church, to give their reasons for absenting, they conducted in a brotherly and christian manner.

While the persons who withdrew at this time were styled Baptists on account of a feature of their creed they further contended that it was sinful and unscriptural to maintain a salaried clergy, or in their own words, "we are against those that preach for hire or those that ask pay for kindling a fire on God's altar." The case of Mary Cheney who joined the Baptists without requesting a dismissal was attended with more difficulty:

The Church of Christ in Ashburnham to Mary Cheney:

At a meeting of the church regularly held, your conduct in leaving this church without leave or notice given was taken in consideration and, after maturely weighing the matter, judged that it was a breach of covenant and that you ought to be admonished for your disorderly conduct. When you was admitted among us, you solemnly promised to walk in communion with us as far as you knew your duty, and we promised to watch over you and are now endeavoring to perform our engagement by sending you this letter of admonition. When you was dissatisfied with us and could not in conscience have communion with us, why could you not have manifested your mind? We do not want to debar any from enjoying liberty of conscience, but how can the purity and order of the church possibly be kept up, if members, contrary to solemn engagements, break away from one church to another without the least notice given? Your change of opinions can't justify your conduct, for God is a God of order and not of confusion.

We therefore admonish you for breach of covenant and earnestly entreat you to consider seriously of what you have done and of the bad and dangerous consequences of such disorderly behavior and

to give the church you have justly offended christian satisfaction without which we cannot at any time admit you to any privilege among us if you should desire it. And we judge also that the church to which you have joined are disorderly and ought to be admonished. We pray the great Shepherd would lead and guide you by his spirit, make you fully sensible of your evil conduct and dispose you to make that satisfaction which we must suppose your conscience upon mature deliberation will readily dictate.

We subscribe ourselves your offended brethren, yet ready to be reconciled upon reasonable and christian terms.

The defection of a few from the church to the Methodists occurred at a later period and under the warmth of a more charitable and tolerant spirit. The following letter truthfully reflects the pacific policy which pervades the records at this period.

April 4, 1796. — Whereas our brother Stephen Randall, Jr., has requested that he may be dismissed from this to the Episcopal Methodist Church because he finds he is better edified than to continue with us and is not fully satisfied with the custom of disciplining members, we would say, we wish not to deprive him of any good which he thinks he may gain for his soul, we are free and willing that every one should have liberty of conscience. Also a letter of dismission would introduce him into the Methodist Church, from the principle of christian charity and communion we should readily grant it, certifying that his moral character is good. We desire and pray that he may adorn the doctrine of Jesus Christ with those of his denomination, though we would not be understood as fully approving all their doctrines and discipline.

In other cases of discipline, with limited knowledge of the facts and surroundings, it would be folly to inquire if the church had been severe or if the offenders had sinned. Only one case evincing the breadth and tenderness of brotherhood will be cited. This report of a committee delegated to visit

one of the most prominent citizens of the town is in the language of Mr. Cushing who was one of the committee and is dated January 1, 1818.

We waited upon him soon after our appointment and after saying everything we could on the one hand to dissuade him from the excessive use of spirit, and on the other to encourage him to a reformation, at length he told us that he had come to a resolution to refrain entirely for one month. At the end of which we might visit him again and if we found he had broken over the resolution we might do with him as we thought best. Accordingly at the end of the month we all visited him again and he declared he had not taken a drop of spirit, and upon being asked what his purpose was for the future he told that it was his determination to persevere, so that we were relieved from the disagreeable work of leaving the letter of admonition with him, and we rejoiced together at the pleasing and happy prospect of a reformation. He seemed to have uncomfortable apprehensions that he should not be able to remove the offence he had given the church. But we answered him that the offence would cease immediately upon his reformation, that the church would rejoice, that his family and connections would rejoice, yea and the angels in Heaven would rejoice.

It is within the memory of many of the aged among us, that Mr. Cushing maintained an advanced position on the question of temperance and that in the pulpit, more frequently than many of his contemporaries, he boldly preached the error and evils of intemperance. If his views on this subject were presented with a characteristic rigor of opinion, they were attended in his daily walk among his people with that spirit of forgiveness and brotherly love and tenderness which pervades the report we have cited.

The church in Ashburnham was among the first to abandon the custom of administering the rites of baptism to the children of parents who were not members of the church.

This custom of very early origin prevailed in many of the New England churches until a comparatively recent period. The parents who thus desired to present their offspring for baptism were required to "own the covenant," or in other words, to publicly express a general belief in the creed of the church. They were not required to profess, and it is reasonably certain they did not always possess, the moral qualification of membership and they were only expected to express an intellectual assent to the general truths of the church covenant. The persons who had only owned the covenant were not admitted to communion nor were they amenable to church discipline, but being admitted to the privilege of presenting their children for baptism on an equality with those in full communion they were frequently styled "half way members." This practice continued throughout the ministry of Mr. Winchester, but it never fully met the approval of Mr. Cushing. With an habitual conservatism in regard to measures, and mindful of the vigilant tendency of his people to oppose any abridgment of their privileges or accepted customs, he presented the following proposition which was adopted without evidence of opposition:

We the church of Christ in Ashburnham, being desirous of promoting practical religion in this place, taking into consideration the general practice in the churches of persons owning the covenant, and having reason to fear that such are left to run too much at large without being watched over and not seeing the consistency of their solemnly owning the covenant and then not paying regard thereto as is the case too much with respect to some it appearing too evident that the main design of some is for the sake of enjoying the ordinance of baptism only: We have come into the following vote:

That we will not for the future admit any to the privilege of baptism except members in full. And that we might not be

thought too severe — if there should be any (which we hope will not be the case), who are so full of doubt and fear, that they dare not approach to the table, but yet are desirous of enjoying the privilege of baptism and putting themselves under the care and watch of the church, we shall not insist upon their participation under such a situation of their mind, nor proceed to censure them if they do not immediately partake of the ordinance.

Inasmuch as there are several that are in covenant that are not members in full, this vote is not to be considered as cutting them off from a privilege granted to them heretofore. However we will consider them as under the inspection of the church, and we engage that we will watch over them as though they were members in full.

This action occurred April 7, 1773. There were some precedents for it at this date, but it was twenty or more years in advance of very many churches situated nearer the schools of theology and the centres of influence.

Notwithstanding the disintegrating influences which were felt at times not only in this town but throughout New England, the membership of the church slowly increased in numbers throughout the ministry of Mr. Cushing. The loss occasioned by death, by removals from the town and by a transfer of relations was more than compensated by an increase in population and the fruit of several seasons of unusual religious interest. The registers of the church in the handwriting of Mr. Cushing represent that, at the time of his death, there were about one hundred and thirty resident members. In one small volume the statistics of more than fifty years are carefully entered. The summary includes the names of three hundred and thirty-one persons admitted to the fellowship of the church; the baptism of nine hundred and sixty-three children and twenty-four adults and the record of three hundred and twelve marriages.

Rev. John Cushing, D. D., was born in Shrewsbury, Massachusetts, August 22, 1744. A descendant of the Cushing family of Hingham he inherited the strong and vigorous traits of character which have distinguished many generations. He was a son of Rev. Job and Mary (Prentice) Cushing. His father was the first minister of Shrewsbury where he died August 6, 1760. His mother was the daughter of Rev. John and Mary (Gardner) Prentice of Lancaster and an honored name in the annals of that town. She died at the age of ninety years May 24, 1798.

Mr. Cushing entered Harvard University where he maintained an honorable standing and was graduated 1764, exactly fifty years after his father had received a diploma from the same institution. At the age of twenty-four years he was ordained and settled over the church in this town, November 2, 1768, and died April 27, 1823. From his *alma mater* he received the degree of Doctor of Divinity 1822.

The most fitting tribute to the memory of Mr. Cushing is found in his works. For many years he was the only minister in the town. He stood in the midst of an increasing parish scattered over a large township, yet his influence pervaded every portion of it. He was faithful in every service. Two sermons were regularly prepared for the Sabbath, frequent discourses were written for week-day lectures and his ministrations to the sick and the bereaved were prompt and unfailing. He was constant in his attendance upon the schools and in all social relations with his parish. At every fireside the serenity of his countenance, the wisdom of his speech and the purity of his life and example were continually deepening the impression and enforcing the influences of his public ministrations. He gladly welcomed all the moral and benevolent enterprises

of his time. The cause of temperance and the early missionary organizations received from him a warm and efficient support.

In stature, Mr. Cushing was tall and portly; in bearing dignified and erect. He moved with precision and with the incisive mark of strength and vigor. As the infirmity of age grew upon him, his step was slower but never faltering; his form became slightly bowed but lost none of its original dignity and commanding presence. His mild blue eye and the serenity of his countenance were undimmed even when his whitened and flowing locks were counting the increasing furrows of age in his face.

As a preacher he adhered to the fundamental doctrines of his creed and supported them with frequent quotation from the Scriptures. The plan of his discourse was lucid and his methods of reasoning direct and logical. If he was tenacious in the use of set terms and forms of speech he invariably applied them with aptness and precision. He did not rely on the abundance of words or the exhibition of emotion, but upon the weight and sequence of the central truths which formed the theme of his discourse. His voice was clear, strong and pleasing. He read his sermons closely and without gesture. In delivery he was moderate, earnest and impressive. At home and abroad he was justly regarded as an able, instructive preacher. The ability of Mr. Cushing in an intellectual sense was conspicuous. Measured by men of acknowledged power and ability he was not deficient. He held a foremost rank among illustrious compeers in his profession and was an equal in mind and character of Reverends Payson of Rindge, Farrar and Hall of New Ipswich, Waters of Ashby, Rice of Westminster and Pillsbury of Winchendon.

As a counsellor he was prudent and judicial. Possessing a thorough knowledge of ecclesiastical law and skilled in the usages of the church, his advice was frequently sought in the settlement of contention in other churches. In such service his counsels were invaluable. If his associates were exacting and harsh in their conclusions, his judgments were always tempered with mercy and his decisions fragrant with forgiveness and reconciliation. In the midst of every form of contention, his goal was peace and seldom was he moved from his accustomed paths by the passions of contending men. In ecclesiastical councils of a more pacific character his services were frequently solicited and cheerfully rendered and for many years a council was seldom convened in a circle of many miles to which he was not invited.

In his daily life Mr. Cushing was laborious. His discourses were carefully written, his parochial visits were regularly made and the schools were familiar with his presence. With these uninterrupted ministrations and the care of his farm he found time in some way for reading and music. He was regarded by his associates in the ministry as a man of liberal knowledge and varied acquirements.

He was preëminently a minister of the olden time. His parish was his field of labor and no one was neglected. His charge was his constant thought and duty, and while he watched for the fruit of his labor, he toiled on with unfailing hope and courage. Even in the decline of life and under the weight of nearly eighty years his service was acceptable and his parish united in their love and respect for their venerable teacher. It seems that their affection for him increased as he paled and grew feeble in their service. And when death came and stilled the pulsations of his warm and generous heart, his people paid a fitting tribute in the lines of sorrow engraved on every countenance. From that

hour the voice of tradition began to assert that his genius was solid; his understanding clear; his judgment strong; his memory faithful; his emotions cool and restrained yet his sympathies tender and his affections warm; that his resolution and perseverance were unusual, that he was faithful to every trust and that his heart was so honest, his friendship so sincere and his tongue under such control, that his smile was a benediction and his speech a sermon.

Mr. Cushing married September 28, 1769, Sarah Parkman, daughter of Rev. Ebenezer and Hannah (Breck) Parkman of Westboro, who surviving her husband died in this town March 12, 1825. The record of the family is continued in the genealogical registers.

After these many years the church and the parish were without a minister. There were several families in town that had removed hither soon after the settlement of Mr. Cushing, but very few were living who witnessed his ordination. The only grown persons living in this town in 1768 who remained here and survived Mr. Cushing were Enos Jones, Rebecca (Foster) Ward, widow of Caleb Ward, Judith (Foster) Brooks, widow of Dr. Peter Brooks.

The following June the town chose William J. Lawrence, Thomas Hobart, Reuben Townsend, Jr., Joseph Jewett and Benjamin Barrett to supply the pulpit. At a meeting early in October the committee reported that "they had hired Mr. George Perkins to preach four Sabbaths." Three weeks later the town voted to hear Mr. Perkins four additional Sabbaths and on the first day of December instructed the committee to employ Mr. Perkins until further orders from the town. December 24, eight months after the death of Mr. Cushing, the church extended a unanimous call, in which the town concurred in a vote of sixty-eight to seventeen. The town instructed the committee formerly chosen

to notify the candidate and the church joined Deacon Hunt, Dr. Lowe and Doddridge Cushing. The letter of acceptance is subjoined:

ASHBURNHAM, Jany. 24, 1824.

To the Congregational Church and Society in Ashburnham:

Christian Brethren and Friends —

Having been presented by your committee with the votes of this church and congregation giving me a call to settle with you as your Gospel minister and having, as I trust, attentively and prayerfully sought to know my duty in a case of such vast importance in its consequences, both to you and to myself, I have come to a determination to accept of the invitation contained in your votes, subject to the conditions specified therein. I am also ready to unite with the church and society in such measures as may be necessary to carry your votes and this answer into effect. As there may be occasions which will render it necessary for me to leave this place for a longer period than one week at a time, I think it reasonable to claim the privilege of being absent two Sabbaths in each year, without abatement of compensation, — this being the least number usually granted. The church and society will also expect me to make such exchanges as are customary among neighboring ministers.

Feeling, as I do, my unworthiness of so important a trust and my utter insufficiency in my own strength, to lead a life of usefulness amongst you, I cannot close without making the further request that I may at all times have your fervent prayers to God that He would make me a zealous, faithful and successful minister of the New Testament to the souls of this people.

GEORGE PERKINS.

Mr. Perkins was ordained February 25, 1824. The council comprised the Reverends Bascom and Putnam of Ashby, Putnam of Fitchburg, Mann of Westminster, Wellington of Templeton, Estabrook of Athol, Sabin of Fitzwilliam and Deacon George Coffin of Winchendon.

The ministry of Mr. Perkins was successful and unusually acceptable to the church and congregation. Entering the ministry without pursuing a prescribed course of study he had not acquired the conventional manners of the schools, yet in him were combined dignity with affability and unusual plainness of speech with equal kindness. In the pulpit he was often colloquial, sometimes eloquent and always instructive. A few lines from a letter written by Sarah Jewett in December, 1823, will be accepted as authority in regard to his characteristics. "Mr. Perkins is our candidate. I am certain you will like him much, as you like unassuming manners. He is an uncommonly interesting man. His manner in the pulpit is easy and natural; his composition chaste; and his remarks original, and we seldom witness such urbanity of manner." It is the united testimony of all who remember him that he was a devoted minister and a kind, sympathizing friend. By his ready sympathy and his exemplary walk and conversation he secured the affections and respect of his people. In his public ministrations he was discreet and faithful. At a season of controversial discussion, which was rending many churches, his flock was united and by avoiding doctrinal preaching he persuaded his people to drown dissension in forgetfulness. The ministry of Mr. Perkins in this place was interrupted by the feebleness of the aged parents of his wife who sought his care and assistance. Obtaining a dismissal from his charge he returned to Connecticut.

A mutual council was convened July 3, 1832, and after formally assenting to the desire of Mr. Perkins to be released from his charge the record proceeds:

The council are happy to state that in the dissolution of the pastoral relations of the Rev. George Perkins to this church and people the most mutual good feeling has prevailed and we wish to

state explicitly that the reasons assigned for a dissolution of this relation are such as do not show any dissatisfaction of the church and people towards their pastor nor any dissatisfaction on his part towards them.

Rev. George Perkins, son of Dr. Elisha and Sarah (Douglas) Perkins, was born in Plainfield, Connecticut, October 19, 1783. He pursued a preparatory course of study at the Academy in his native town and was graduated at Yale College 1803. After reading law in the office of Hon. Charles Marsh of Woodstock, Vermont, he soon became a prominent lawyer in Norwich, Connecticut. In the continued practice of his profession he earned an excellent reputation as a safe and prudent counsellor and an able advocate. Such was his integrity and conscientious adherence to his idea of right, he was familiarly styled by his brethren in the profession and often by the public as "Honest George." In 1821, and soon after the death of his first wife, closing his office in Norwich and with little remark concerning his intentions, he sought the home of his brother, Rev. J. Douglas Perkins, in Coatesville, Pennsylvania, and under his tuition he pursued the study of theology a year or more. Entering the ministry at the age of forty years and after preaching a few Sabbaths in Ashby, his first continued pastoral labor was in this town. After his dismissal from this church he was installed in 1832 over the church in Jewett City, Connecticut, where he remained six years.

Of his ministry in that place, Rev. Thomas L. Shipman, his successor, has written, "He preached eloquently seven days in the week by the power of a holy life." Later he was occupied some time in the settlement of the estate of Dr. John Turner, the father of his wife, and residing in

Norwich he supplied in the vicinity from time to time until death came to abide with him September 15, 1852.

Mr. Perkins, after a brief interval, was succeeded by Rev. George Goodyear. He was the last minister who preached in the meeting-house on the hill and the first who ministered in the new house in the village. He was installed October 10, 1832, and dismissed at his request November 16, 1841. This was a pastorate of pleasant and enduring memories and a season of temporal and spiritual prosperity. The new meeting-house was built soon after the labors of Mr. Goodyear began. The congregation was large and many names were enrolled on the registers of the church; one hundred and ten members being received in a single year, of whom seventy-seven were admitted the first Sabbath in July, 1834. During this memorable season the pastor was assisted by Horatio Foot, the evangelist. Many who read his name will recall his earnest words and impassioned manner as they wonder if his appeal to the emotions was as enduring as the address of abler men to the intellect.

In the discharge of ministerial duty, Mr. Goodyear was faithful and in all his relations with his fellow-men he was kind and sympathizing. No one approached him as a friend without feeling an answering kindness or in sorrow without being comforted. His sermons were the expression of an earnest purpose and a sincere desire to improve his hearers, and when he came down from the pulpit mingling with his people his religion, his gentleness, his affability did not forsake him. In an eminent degree he secured the love of his people and the respect of the community.

Rev. I. Sumner Lincoln, now living at an advanced age in Wilton, New Hampshire, has paid an appreciative tribute to his friend and neighbor.

My acquaintance with Mr. Goodyear commenced in 1821 when he entered Yale College, of which I became a member in 1818. After completing his academical and theological studies at Yale, and while preaching in pursuit of a place of settlement, he visited my settled home in Gardner and preached for me on Sunday a good sermon. Ashburnham was then destitute of a pastor. On Monday morning I carried him there and introduced and recommended him to the parish committee. From that time he became their minister and my good neighbor for nine years. During that time he made full proof of his gospel ministry both as a good preacher and pastor. He sustained a good reputation as a man and a minister and made many most worthy friends. After he left that place and I left Gardner we were widely separated for some years, but for the last fifteen years we have been happy neighbors again, he in Temple and myself in Wilton, where our friendly intercourse was renewed and continued to the time of his recent departure to his celestial home. Full of Christian faith, virtue and hope he has passed into the personal presence of his Lord and Savior.

Rev. George Goodyear, son of Simeon and Hannah (Beadsly) Goodyear, was born in Hamden, Connecticut, December 9, 1801. The Goodyears of Connecticut have been distinguished in many walks of life. Charles Goodyear, the patentee and manufacturer of rubber wares, was a first cousin of the fourth minister of Ashburnham. Mr. Goodyear prepared for college under the tuition of Rev. Edward Hooker, D. D., and at Bacon Academy in Colchester. He was graduated at Yale College 1824 and at the Theological Seminary in New Haven 1827. Ordained without charge July 22, 1828. Previous to his installation in this town he preached as stated supply at Gaines, New York, and at East Windsor, Connecticut. Upon his removal from this town after supplying nearly two years at Renerville, New York, he was installed over churches in Truro, 1846–9,

South Royalston, 1849–54 and Temple, New Hampshire, 1854–65. Mr. Goodyear was a member of the New Hampshire Legislature 1865 and 1866. His last dismissal was at his earnest desire and on account of his failing health. He died in Temple, where he had continued to reside, November 18, 1884.

After hearing two or more candidates, the church and parish united in a decision to hire Rev. Edwin Jennison for two years. This action was soon modified. A call was accepted and Mr. Jennison was installed May 12, 1842, or within six months after the dismissal of Mr. Goodyear. In the first year of this pastorate the church in North Ashburnham was organized to which twenty-five members of the church transferred their relations. Mr. Jennison entered upon his labors under favorable auspices. He was an acceptable preacher and was justly regarded as an earnest, devoted minister. His health soon failed, but with fading strength he continued his labor until the close of the fourth year. The relation was dissolved May 12, 1846, and from the record of the proceedings it appears that "The council regard Mr. Jennison with high esteem and confidence as a worthy Christian brother, an able and faithful preacher of the gospel and an affectionate pastor."

Rev. Edwin Jennison, a son of Major William and Phœbe (Field) Jennison, was born in Walpole, New Hampshire, August 26, 1805. He was graduated at Dartmouth College 1827, and at Andover Theological Seminary 1830. Previous to his labors in this town Mr. Jennison had been settled over churches in Walpole, his native town, 1831–5, Mont Vernon, New Hampshire, 1836–41. Subsequently he was installed at Hopkinton, New Hampshire, January 6, 1847, and dismissed September 5, 1849. In each instance the relation was dissolved on account of his feeble health. For twenty-

five years he has been incapacitated from labor and has resided in Winchester, New Hampshire, and of late in Conway, Massachusetts.

The dismissal of Mr. Jennison had been anticipated. His failing health had prepared his charge for the event and a successor was soon chosen. To Rev. Elnathan Davis a call was extended by the church May 25, which was ratified by the parish June 27, 1846. For some reason, not now apparent, the installation was deferred and in the mean time Mr. Davis continued to preach with unqualified acceptance. A council being convened early in September exception was taken to the views of the candidate on the doctrinal question of infant baptism. The solemnities were postponed. The council was recalled September 16, 1846, and recognizing the merit and ability of the candidate, and finding the church and society tenacious in their increasing desire to have the pastor of their choice settled over them, the installation was consummated. The minutes of the council are evidence that all the proceedings were conducted in a friendly spirit and that the only embarrassment was found in a difference of opinion on a single question of doctrine.

Mr. Davis was a man of positive ideas and enduring convictions. He was an able preacher and an active pastor. His labor was incessant, knowing every member of his flock he kindly and faithfully ministered to them. The church and the parish were united, the social meetings were fully attended and the influences of this pastorate have been permanent and salutary. In the dawn of many golden promises of a long and happy ministry, Mr. Davis was invited to attend the World's Peace Congress held in Paris in 1849. Knowing that this overture, if not refused, would invite a continued connection with the American Peace Society and consequently lead to a dissolution of his relations to the

church and people of Ashburnham, he accepted the proffered mission with great reluctance. Soon after his return from Europe Mr. Davis became the secretary of the Peace Society and tendered his resignation as pastor of this church. He was formally dismissed May 21, 1851.

Rev. Elnathan Davis, son of Ethan and Sarah (Hubbard) Davis, was born in Holden, August 19, 1807. Graduating at Williams College 1834, East Windsor (Connecticut) Theological Seminary 1836, he was ordained as an evangelist at Holden in November following. He labored in the cause of Home Missions several years in Indiana and Michigan. Returning to the East in 1845 he was settled in Ashburnham the following year. Later he was pastor of the Trinitarian church in Fitchburg fourteen years. In 1869 he was elected to the Legislature from the Fitchburg district and immediately after this service he removed to Auburn and preached there until 1879 and there resided until his death, April 9, 1881.

The seventh pastor was Rev. Frederick A. Fiske who was installed December 30, 1851. This was a brief pastorate. Mr. Fiske came at a season of inactivity in the church and indifference in the parish. If he did not mingle with the people with the brotherly and ready sympathy that attended the walk of Mr. Davis and Mr. Goodyear, he set before them the example of a well ordered life and conversation. In the pulpit he was unemotional but instructive; earnest but never eloquent; his sermons were carefully written but delivered with little animation. At the close of two years of labor he made a request for an increase of salary. It came at an inopportune moment. The failure to accede to the request was chargeable more to the temporary condition of the parish than to the general impulses of the people. With fraternal sentiment on other points the relation was dissolved April 17, 1854.

Rev. Frederick Augustus Fiske, the son of the Rev. Elisha and Margaret (Shepard) Fiske, was born in Wrentham, Massachusetts, April 15, 1816, and was prepared for college at Day's Academy in his native town. After his graduation, he at once engaged in teaching; first as assistant in Washington Institute, New York city, then in Norwalk, Connecticut, next as principal of Monson Academy (1833–4), later in Fall River, and finally as principal of the High School in Clinton. After taking the full course of three years at Yale Theological Seminary (from 1847 to 1850), he entered upon the work of the ministry, being ordained pastor of this church. For about three years from November 16, 1854, he was pastor of the Congregational church in East Marshfield, Massachusetts; for the next eight years, principal of a boarding school in Newton; from 1865 to 1868, Superintendent of Education for North Carolina, under the Freedmen's Bureau; and from January 26, 1869, to November 28 of the same year, pastor of the Congregational church in Raynham. The remaining years of his life were spent in the service of the Protestant Episcopal church, his ordination as a deacon occurring June 25, 1870, and as a priest, November 5, 1870. From July, 1870, to May, 1873, he was rector of Trinity church, Van Deusenville; from May, 1873, to September, 1876, rector of St. Paul's church, Brookfield, Connecticut; from September, 1876, till his death, rector of Grace church, North Attleborough. He died December 15, 1878.

Mr. Fiske was succeeded by Rev. E. G. Little, who was installed August 22, 1855. This was a memorable pastorate. In the autumn of the first year Mr. Day, an evangelist, was joined with the pastor in a series of meetings which were fully attended. The visible fruit of their labor is found in the record of forty-two admissions to the church before the

close of the year. Mr. Little was a diligent pastor. His sermons were wrought with care, logical in arrangement, sometimes glowing with the warmth of an ardent nature and always teaching the fundamental doctrines of his faith. His brief ministry in this town was terminated at his request May 13, 1857.

Elbridge Gerry Little was born in Hampstead, New Hampshire, November 11, 1817. He was a son of Joseph and Rebecca (Webster) Little. At an early age he commenced teaching. Mainly meeting the expenses of a liberal education by his own efforts, he fitted for college under the instruction of Prof. Benjamin Greenleaf of Bradford and entered the college of Nassau Hall at Princeton, New Jersey, in sophomore year, graduating in the class of 1845. He pursued a full course of study at Princeton Theological Seminary and was licensed to preach in April, 1848. His first charge was at Manayunk, Pennsylvania, a suburb of Philadelphia. Returning to New England in 1850, he was installed over the church in Merrimack, New Hampshire, in September of that year. After his dismissal from this church and after preaching a year or more in Middleborough he was installed over the church in that place April 13, 1859, and dismissed September 15, 1867. Mr. Little then removed to Wellesley where he was mainly engaged in secular and literary pursuits until his death which occurred December 29, 1869.

Succeeding Mr. Little, Rev. Thomas Boutelle supplied the pulpit nearly six years, from the spring of 1857 to January, 1863. His health was not firm and afforded so little assurance of continued service that a call was not extended. The friendly offices of an ecclesiastical council were not invoked and the neighboring churches were permitted a brief respite from attendance upon the accustomed solemnities in this place.

Mr. Boutelle was greatly beloved. His sympathies were warm and constant, his friendship was enduring and his interest in the highest welfare of his charge was unabated. The memories of this pastorate are savory and imperishable. With generous impulses was joined the constant force of superior mental endowment guided by wisdom and prudence. Always instructive, sometimes eloquent, he was at once an able and a popular preacher. In 1862 he was elected to the Legislature from the Winchendon and Ashburnham district.

Rev. Thomas Boutelle, son of James and Abigail (Fairbanks) Boutelle, was born in Leominster, February 1, 1805. He completed his preparatory studies at New Ipswich and entering Amherst College at the age of twenty years he was graduated in the class of 1829 and at Andover Theological Seminary 1832. After a short engagement with the American Educational Society, he was ordained and installed over the Congregational church in Plymouth, May 21, 1834; dismissed March 23, 1837. His next charge was at Woodstock, Connecticut, where he remained twelve years. From 1850 to 1856 he labored at Bath, New Hampshire. At the close of his pastorate in this town he removed to Fitchburg and there conducted a bookstore, preaching occasionally as opportunity was offered. He died suddenly of heart disease November 28, 1866.

The supply of Mr. Boutelle was succeeded by the settlement of Rev. George E. Fisher who was installed May 21, 1863. It was a successful ministry. The church was united and increased in membership and the parish strengthened. His sermons were thoughtful and instructive and his social relations were firmly supported by enduring friendship. In 1867 he represented the district in the Legislature. His request for a dismissal reluctantly granted by the church and parish was approved by a council convened September 2, 1867.

Rev. George E. Fisher, son of Rev. George and Mary (Fiske) Fisher, was born in Harvard January 22, 1823. Pursuing his preparatory study under the tuition of his father and at the Lawrence Academy in Groton, he was graduated at Amherst College 1846, and at Andover Theological Seminary 1849. He was successively settled over the church in Rutland February 27, 1850; the North church in Amherst September 16, 1852; the church in Mason Village (now Greenville), New Hampshire, June 22, 1859. Following his removal from this town Mr. Fisher was installed over the church in South Hadley Falls September 2, 1867, and over the East church in Amherst December 10, 1879, where he remains an active and successful pastor.

Leaving Mr. Fisher, the ninth and last minister who received installation, the church and parish entered an era of supply as yet unbroken. The ministry has been continuous and not without a character of stability.

Rev. Moody A. Stevens was employed three years commencing in 1867. During this period the meeting-house was thoroughly repaired and it is probable the progress of his labor was considerably interrupted by the activities of the parish. He was a devoted man and he earnestly and faithfully labored for the highest good of his people. He was singularly free from ostentation, prudent in his methods and manifested a friendly interest in the welfare of his parish. Being a cultured musician he took a lively interest in church music and enlivened the social meetings with the spirit of song. His ministry was successful.

Rev. Moody A. Stevens, son of David and Elizabeth (Ryder) Stevens, was born in Bedford, New Hampshire, February 7, 1828. He fitted for college at Phillips Academy, Andover, and at Exeter, New Hampshire, and at twenty years of age he entered Dartmouth College. His

health failed and he did not complete a course of study at that time. For seven years he made a thorough study of music and was a student and instructor in Boston and in St. Johns, New Brunswick. Subsequently he completed his academical studies at the University of New York and is a graduate of Union Theological Seminary. In 1861 he was chaplain four months of the Second New York City Volunteers. He was ordained and installed over the church in Plymouth December 9, 1862. Since his labors in this town he has supplied at Anoka, Michigan, and at Minneapolis, Minnesota, and is now temporarily residing in Boston.

The following six years and until 1876 the pulpit was supplied by Rev. Leonard S. Parker. He is a man of strong convictions but generous in all his relations to his fellow-men. A diligent pastor, a frequent visitor in the schools, a willing supporter of every laudable enterprise the pastorate is a record of labor and substantial results. The Cushing Academy was opened while Mr. Parker was preaching in this place. June 10, 1874, he was elected a trustee of that institution and is now in duration of service the fourth member of the board.

Rev. Leonard S. Parker, son of William and Martha (Tenney) Parker, was born in Dunbarton, New Hampshire, December 6, 1812. He pursued his preparatory studies at the academies in Hampton and Hopkinton, New Hampshire, and at the Boston Latin School, and is a graduate of Dartmouth College and Oberlin Theological Seminary. In early life he enlisted in the anti-slavery movement, and his public efforts elicited the favorable notice of Giddings and other pioneers in the cause. He has been settled over churches in Mansfield, Ohio; Providence, Rhode Island; West Brookfield and Haverhill; and Derry, New Hampshire.

Following his ministry in this town he supplied at Miller's Falls and Turner's Falls, preaching each Sabbath at churches four miles distant and having a class in each Sunday-school. At the commencement of these labors both were mission churches, but during the ministry of Mr. Parker both became self-supporting and erected houses of worship. At present Mr. Parker is acting pastor of the Congregational church in Berkley.

Mr. Parker was immediately succeeded by Rev. Daniel E. Adams, who was acting pastor from July 16, 1876, to July 5, 1885. In duration the ministry of Mr. Goodyear exceeds that of Mr. Adams by only a few Sabbaths; and, except the prolonged ministry of Dr. Cushing, no other pastorate of this church has been continued an equal length of time. Assuming without hesitation the prerogatives of his sacred calling, Mr. Adams preached the whole truth but with a sincerity and kindness that provoked neither bitterness nor controversy. In his administration of the affairs of the church he pursued a pacific policy and his ministry was an era of concord and harmony. The memory of the fraternal relations continuously maintained in the church and parish is a living tribute to his judicious ministry in the pulpit and among the people. Of the one hundred and fifty funerals attended by Mr. Adams while in this town, the extreme age of two of the deceased is remarkable. The funeral of Mrs. Emma (Willard) Skelton, aged 103 years and 10 months, occurred November 7, 1881, and that of Colonel Charles Barrett, aged 97 years and 4 months, June 10, 1885.

Rev. Daniel E. Adams, son of Rev. Darwin and Catherine (Smith) Adams, was born in Hollis, New Hampshire, June 22, 1832. His grandfather was Daniel Adams, the author of Adams' Arithmetic and other popular school-books, and his mother was the daughter of Rev. Eli Smith of Hollis,



J. D. Crosby.

New Hampshire. Graduating at Bangor Theological Seminary 1860, Mr. Adams was ordained and installed over the Second Congregational church, Wilton, New Hampshire, December 5, 1860, and dismissed May 5, 1876. Since December 5, 1885, he has been acting pastor of the Pilgrim Congregational church of Southboro.'

During several of the intervals between the pastorates and when called upon by the sickness or absence of the stated supply, Rev. Josiah D. Crosby of this town has been a present help in every time of need. He supplied continuously during the absence of Mr. Davis in Europe and in the aggregate he has preached more Sabbaths than some of the pastors who have been in charge. Any record of the ministry of this church would be incomplete without a generous recognition of his willing service. His interest in the prosperity of the church and parish has been unfailing, and in matters of moment his advice frequently has been solicited and cheerfully given, and to the sick and the aged he has been an attentive friend.

Rev. Josiah Davis Crosby, eldest son of Fitch and Rebecca (Davis) Crosby, was born in Ashburnham, March 1, 1807. He pursued his preparatory studies at New Ipswich Academy and under the tuition of Ephraim M. Cunningham, Esq., then a lawyer in Ashburnham. At the age of fifteen years, he entered Amherst College and not completing the course in that institution he entered senior year at Union College graduating in class of 1826. He studied theology at Andover and was licensed to preach by the North Worcester Association in 1830. October 4, 1837, he was installed colleague to the venerable Rev. Laban Ainsworth over the church at Jaffrey Centre, New Hampshire, and was dismissed May 18, 1845. He supplied at New Buffalo from October 1, 1857, to July 1, 1858, and from September 1, 1861, to September 1, 1862.

Here at the close of one hundred and twenty-five years the record ends. Nine ministers have been installed over the church and five have supplied about twenty-five years. The ministry of Mr. Cushing was a continent of time and in comparison the shorter pastorates were little islands in an adjacent sea. Yet each of them, influenced in some measure by its climate, has produced fruit in accordance with the tillage of the vineyard. The ministry has been continuous and in its character it has been able and substantial. If the pulpit has been graced by none who have electrified audiences and by the power of eloquence have swayed the passions of men, each in his sphere has been an acceptable preacher and, apparently, more concerned to secure the approval of his Master than the applause of men, has faithfully discharged his duty to the church and to the parish.

The offices of the church in forming and moulding character and in its ministrations to the souls of men form a part of the unwritten history of another world. The visible results of the record aggregate the admission of one thousand and twenty-six to its membership, beside the few names that escaped record during the ministry of Mr. Winchester. Of these, four hundred and two have died in full relations and four hundred and forty have been dismissed, a few with censure but generally with recommendation to other churches. There have been convened sixteen ecclesiastical councils for the settlement and dismissal of ministers and only one in arbitration upon a proceeding of discipline, and this church has been invited to meet in nearly one hundred councils upon the affairs of other churches.

Through all these years the church in Ashburnham has remained steadfast to its early principles, yet ready to accept the enlargement of its creed which has attended the progress of the age. In the succession of worshippers they have

borne the prayer and the praise of four generations. In blameless lives, in self-denial, in devotion and in courage they have honored the fathers who planted the vine in the wilderness. As a thousand tender memories warm the heart, the influence of their faith and devotion, as reflected in the record, will become the enduring inheritance of their successors.

Since the organization of the church the following persons have officiated as deacons:

Moses Foster,	1760,	resigned 1769, died Oct. 17, 1785.
Samuel Fellows,	1760,	removed to Shelburne 1772.
Tristram Cheney,	1769,	removed to Antrim, N. H., 1773.
John Willard,	1772,	died July 4, 1793.
Samuel Wilder,	1773,	died May 9, 1798.
Peter Stone,	1788,	removed to Townsend 1799.
Jacob Harris,	1788,	died in Windham, N. H., Sept. 26, 1826.
Elisha White,	1798,	died June 14, 1817.
Sherebiah Hunt,	1798,	died March 6, 1826.
Samuel Ward,	1817,	resigned 1843.
William J. Lawrence,	1819,	died July 8, 1844.
Daniel Jones,	1824,	dismissed to Union Church 1843.
John C. Glazier,	1836,	dismissed to Methodist Church, 1857.
Amos Taylor,	1843,	removed to Ashby 1851.
John A. Conn,	1849,	removed to Fitchburg 1865.
William P. Ellis,	1849,	resigned 1862.
Harvey Brooks,	1862,	removed to Gardner.
David Laws,	1865,	removed to Worcester 1871.
J. Newton Hastings,	1870,	resigned 1877.
Charles E. Woodward,	1870,	resigned 1877.

Since 1877 the deacons have been elected for a limited term but are eligible to reëlection. The new system comprises the election of two deacons every other year for the term of four years. Under this arrangement the following persons have been chosen and are continued in office:

J. Newton Hastings,	1877.
Charles E. Woodward,	1877.
Mortimer M. Stowe,	1877.
George W. Eddy,	1883.

CHAPTER IX.

ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY. — CONTINUED.

THE FIRST MEETING-HOUSE. — VOTES CONCERNING THE EDIFICE. — PEWS CONSTRUCTED. — THE TOWN AS A PARISH. — THE SALARY OF MR. CUSHING. — THE HURRICANE. — THE SITE OF THE FIRST MEETING-HOUSE. — THE SECOND MEETING-HOUSE. — PROCEEDINGS 1791. — PAINTING OF THE MEETING-HOUSE. — TOLERATION. — DISSOLUTION OF THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TOWN AND THE CHURCH. — FIRST PARISH ORGANIZED. — CONTENTION OVER THE MINISTERIAL FUND. — THE THIRD MEETING-HOUSE. — LOCATION. — CONTINUED HISTORY. — THE EDIFICE REMODELLED. — THE PARSONAGE.

Conspicuous in the annals of Ashburnham are the very early measures concerning the location and building of the first meeting-house. The worship of God in a stated form was a subject of earnest concern and solicitude. The "hill with a very fair prospect" was fitly chosen for the site of the temple in the forest. The work was not suffered to sleep. At a date which excites no small measure of surprise and far in advance of other settlements a meeting-house was built in 1739 or possibly very early in 1740. At a later period, the abandonment of the settlement and, owing to disturbance excited by continued war, the tardy return of the settlers did not permit its use for many years; but the edifice inviting occupancy remained as a monument to the enterprise and faith of its builders. True it was a long time before it was completed to the satisfaction of the proprietors, but through all the period of repairs and amendments it

could be used, and in the light of the times with some degree of comfort.

Rev. Dr. Cushing speaking midway between the event and the present has preserved the information that this was the first framed building erected in Ashburnham and that it was raised by only sixteen men. It may be inferred that an event like the raising of a meeting-house invited the whole settlement to the scene of action. It is more probable that some came from Lunenburg than that any settler remained at home. At this time the proprietors would not be sustained in the declaration that there were thirty men residing here. The vote of the proprietors instructing Mr. Mossman to nail up the windows and doors, and their committal of this meeting-house in the wilderness to the care of Him in whose service it had been reared and its wonderful preservation during the French and Indian War, add new interest to its history. Reversing the traditions of the temple of Janus, whose gates were thrown open in time of war and only closed under the mild commands of peace, our fathers closed their temple in this season of danger and opened it not until the land was quieted and messages of a sweeter peace were spoken beneath its roof. The records relate the progress of the improvements made upon the building in the early years of its occupancy and convey impressions which would be lost if stated in other language:

1752. Voted that all the windows saving the four lower windows in the south side of the meeting-house, which four windows are to be glazed, the others to be fully boarded up for the present.

1753. Voted that a tax of ten shillings on each right lawful money be paid by the third Wednesday in May next towards finishing the meeting-house.

1755. Voted that a tax of three shillings lawful money be laid on each right for doing something for the meeting-house to secure it from the weather.

1759. Voted that Mr. Elisha Coolidge be appointed to bord up the window places in the meeting-house with rough bords to keep out the wet and to make window shuts for two of the windows that are most convenient to let in the light when there shall be preaching there.

In 1760 a minister was settled and in commemoration of the event the sum of forty pounds, to which eight pounds was added the following year, amounting to more than the original cost of construction, was expended, and now for the first time was the house referred to as finished.

Moses Foster, Caleb Wilder and Caleb Dana, one resident and two non-resident proprietors, were chosen to conduct the repairs and assign the several pews to future owners. The work was substantially completed before July 31, 1760, for at that time the committee report the assignment of a part of the pews. The ponderous pulpit of the past century was built upon the north side of the room, stairs were erected to the unfinished galleries and there were doors in the centre of the three remaining sides. On the outside of the room, nineteen rectangular pews or enclosures, constructed after the custom of the time, occupied the spaces between the pulpit and the doors. Possibly there were two additional pews on the south side, making twenty-one in all. The central space surrounded by the pews was not occupied at this time. First west of the pulpit were the stairs, and next was the pew assigned to the ministry. The next was in the corner and was given to Caleb Wilder of Lancaster, and between that and the west door were the pews of Richard Dana and Moses Foster, Jr. The first pew south of the west door was assigned to Jeremiah Foster.

Passing by four, possibly five pews not assigned, the first one west of the south door is given to Caleb Dana of Cambridge who then owned eight rights in the township. No other pews were then disposed of except the five which filled the space between the west door and the pulpit and these were given to Jonathan Samson, Jonathan Gates, John Moffatt of Boston, Elisha Coolidge and Deacon Moses Foster. The pew of Mr. Moffatt was in the northwest corner and that of Deacon Foster was nearest the pulpit. The report of the committee, each of them having secured a good pew for himself, concludes with the remark, "the remaining pew ground we have not disposed of no other proprietors appearing whom we thought had the best right to pews there." This information explains the omission in their report of the names of James Coleman, Thomas Wheeler, John Bates, Wright Brown and other residents.

The German settlers, a majority of whom were members of the church, and others living on the independent grants, not being proprietors, could only come into possession of pews by purchase from some proprietor to whom one had been assigned. Further proceedings of the proprietors were obstructed by the act of incorporation and in this condition the meeting-house was transferred to their legal successors.

Assuming the powers and duties of a town, the inhabitants of Ashburnham in 1765 came into possession and control of the first meeting-house, and in accordance with the laws and usages of the times the town in its corporate capacity began to exercise the functions of a parish. In the settlement and dismissal of a minister the church had a concurrent vote, but the control and repair of the meeting-house, the salary of the minister and all other parochial affairs were debated and determined in open town meeting.

The maintenance of the stated ministrations of the Gospel involved an outer and an inner organization; the first embraced all the citizens of the town, while the latter was limited to the membership of the church. If, in the present light, such relations appear inconsistent it should be remembered that the people generally were in full sympathy with the creed of the prevailing church and that few, if any, were unwilling to pay their proportion of the tax assessed upon all for the support of the ministry. Whatever opposition the system finally provoked in this town, no suggestion of discontent was heard for many years. The early records are a continued narrative of concord and harmony. With unusual unanimity the people mourned the loss of their first pastor and joined in the selection and settlement of his successor.

During the many years the town continued to discharge the offices of a parish the settlement of Mr. Cushing was the only occasion it was called upon to assume the bustle and parade incident to an ordination of the olden time. That the town realized the solemnity of the occasion and was fully equal to the emergency is fully demonstrated. First, they chose one of the deacons to preside over the town meeting at which the important preliminaries were arranged, and then graciously admitted all the freeholders to the privilege of voting on the pending questions. The records portray the gravity of these proceedings.

Y^e^ town Chose Mr. John Cushing to settle in y^e^ ministry by a unanimous vote, also voted y^t^ all y^e^ freeholders Should vote in sum y^t^ they Should Give to y^e^ minister. Y^e^ town voted to give Mr. John Cushing one Hundred thirty-three Pounds, six shillings and Eight Pence for settlement to be Payd in money and Labour.

It was eventually paid with great labor. After voting that the annual salary of Mr. Cushing should be sixty pounds

and at the end of seven years it should be increased to sixty-six and two-thirds pounds, the town made choice of Samuel Wilder, Elisha Coolidge and Ephraim Stone to communicate these propositions to Mr. Cushing. At a subsequent meeting it was ordered "y^{t} y^{e} first wednesday of november next Should be y^{e} ordination" (November 2, 1768). "Y^{e} town voted to send to seven churches to y^{e} ordination." "Y^{e} town voted to Give Capt. Wilder four Pounds to Provide for y^{e} Counsel with this Proviso y^{t} y^{e} Cap^{tn} Should Keep an exact acompt of y^{e} Cost and if y^{e} town shall think y^{t} he bears too big a Proportion y^{t} they will Consider him."

The town further stipulated that the salary should be paid annually and that one-fourth of the settlement should be paid in labor and directed that "Mr. Keperlinger and Mr. Ephraim Stone and William Joyner should be y^{e} Committee to see y^{t} y^{e} work be done as Mr. Cushing wants it." The financial problems being solved, there was remaining an article "to Chuse men to Keep y^{e} Doors and Seets of y^{e} meeting-house till y^{e} Church and Counsel have taken their Seets," and a committee was chosen to carry into effect this respectful impulse of the town. It is not a duty, however, to conceal the fact that a majority of the voters on this occasion were members of the church and consequently in this polite attention to the church and council they were tendering an acceptable compliment to themselves.

The gratuity granted Mr. Cushing as a settlement in addition to his stated salary was in conformity with the customs of the time. It will be remembered that by the conditions of the original charter of this township, a right of land was bestowed on the first settled minister and another reserved for the use of the ministry. While Mr. Cushing continued to enjoy the use of one reservation the other had been given unconditionally to Mr. Winchester. The conditions were

similar in other towns. The custom of granting settlements was designed to bestow on the successors the same degree of favor they had granted to the first settled minister. To pay the gratuity granted Mr. Cushing the town borrowed the greater part of Colonel Caleb Wilder of Lancaster and subsequently cancelled the debt by clearing land with labor which was accepted in payment of taxes.

It is impossible to determine what benefit Mr. Cushing received from the use of the ministerial lands. One lot was sold in 1794 and in consideration of his consent to the sale the town thereafter furnished him thirty cords of wood annually or paid an equivalent in money. It is worthy of note that during the long ministry of Mr. Cushing the annual salary proposed in 1768 was never changed. On one or more occasions an increase was ordered but the vote was reconsidered before another payment was made. At the close of the Revolution remuneration was made for the depreciated currency and later the payments were rendered in Federal money, but from the close of the first seven years to the end of his ministry the salary was neither lessened nor increased. The salary of Mr. Winchester was sixty pounds which was paid by the proprietors until the date of incorporation. The town assumed the original contract and continued to pay the same amount.

Scarcely had the town succeeded to the control of affairs before a storm came and beat upon the meeting-house. Contrary to either scriptural precedent it neither stood nor fell. The gale in the summer of 1766 moved the building from its foundation but the injury was repaired. Referring to this event, Dr. Cushing states, "that in the summer of 1766 a hurricane passed over this hill and made a wreck of the meeting-house, and moved it to the north and to the east two or three feet. It was thought at first that it could not

be repaired but it was and stood until 1791;" or in the language of Tristram Cheney, "The house of public worship has lately been struck by a hurricane and the cost to repair cannot be less than £30." The following year and about three months before the death of Mr. Winchester, Samuel Fellows, Tristram Cheney and Elisha Coolidge were instructed to brace up the galleries and to repair the roof. A corner of a leaf of the records is gone and an account of these repairs is partially lost, but Jeremiah Foster, Jr., was paid four shillings and eight pence "for peeling the bark for the meeting-house," which probably was used in repairing the roof. The next repairs were under a vote to lay the floor in the front gallery, build a pair of stairs in the southwest corner and mend the glass. This was followed by an order in 1771, "to give Jacob Harris, Daniel Priest, Peter Joslin, Samuel Joslin, Oliver Wilder, Francis Dickerson and John Oberlock, Jr., the room in the front gallery, behind the seats that are now built, to build a long pew on." At the same meeting a committee was appointed "to seat the meeting-house according to age and pay."

In 1772, the meeting-house was underpinned in a substantial manner and to keep pace with the increase in population additional accommodations were arranged in the unoccupied portions of the galleries. At this time the glass was set in the remainder of the windows and the following year it was decreed that "eight persons that will be at the cost of finishing off the room behind the seats on the west side of the gallery may have it," and "likewise eight other persons may have the east side at the same rate."

Notwithstanding these repeated measures "to finish the meeting-house," it is probable that even in the estimation of our fathers it never was finished and that further work was delayed by the Revolution and later by the contemplation of

a new and more commodious house. In the condition set forth in the records and confirmed by tradition the town continued to occupy it and to compensate in some measure the decay of years until near the close of the century. Beneath its unpretentious roof Mr. Winchester was accustomed to meet his flock and here Mr. Cushing expounded the doctrines of his faith during the first twenty-three years of his prolonged ministry. Before its humble altar two hundred or more were admitted to the church and over six hundred children were presented for the ordinance of baptism. It is supposed that none are now living who ever entered within its primitive walls. It humbly served its day and generation and the first meeting-house in Ashburnham will ever remain a conspicuous figure in the annals of the settlement. Actuated by this sentiment, the town, in 1882, erected an appropriate tablet on the ground where it stood, both as a memorial of the past and as an index directing future generations to a locality around which the earliest and most sacred memories of the town will linger with unfailing delight. The ceremonies occurred July 4, and an appropriate address was delivered by Melvin O. Adams, Esq.

The inference is just and honorable to our fathers that a decision to remove the old house was not reached until the increasing wealth and population of the town demanded a more pretentious and commodious structure. How long or how earnestly the question of building a new meeting-house was debated, what arguments were presented on either side, with what reverence they regarded the old, or with what anticipations they contemplated a new house, cannot now be determined. The decision was not reached without serious conference and debate among individuals, but so far as the town is concerned, the decisive blow was struck without a note of warning or any bustle of preparation. A warrant

for a town meeting issued October 16, 1789, contains the first reference to the subject. It was then proposed "to see if the town are willing to build a new Meeting House and to pass such votes as shall be necessary for that purpose, viz.: to agree upon a spot of land to set said House and to choose Committees that may appear to be necessary to carry on the work." The meeting was assembled October 30 and the record proceeds: "The question being put whether the Town are willing to build a new meeting-house and it passed in the affirmative. Also voted to set the new house as near the other meeting-house as may be and not to place it on the same ground. Also voted to choose a committee of seven persons to make a draft of a meeting-house and chose Mr. Caleb Kendall, Mr. Samuel Foster, Lieut. Munroe, Samuel Wilder, Col. Lane, Mr. Joseph Whitmore and Lieut. John Adams for said committee and then said meeting was adjourned to the 6th day of November next." This committee is charged with grave responsibilities. To present a single plan that would be accepted by a majority of their townsmen is no ordinary undertaking.

While they are studying the models found in the older towns, we are left at liberty to notice the measure of respect shown them in prefixing titles to their names. With one exception all are honored with a title, and in the solitary omission Samuel Wilder modestly announces that he was the clerk who made the record. Formerly, the law of usage in regard to civic, military and ecclesiastical titles was inexorable. Whenever an individual was advanced from the plane of mediocrity to the honors of a deacon, a justice or military command, his name was subsequently spoken and written in connection with the distinguishing title which announced the rank and new importance of the individual. Samuel Wilder was a captain and a deacon but he was never styled Captain Wilder after he had reached the honors of a

deacon;' but when he was commissioned a justice of the peace, Esquire Wilder rose in triumph over his former self. The following scholiums are apparent. In the former employment of titles many nice discriminations were made. A deacon was next in honor and importance above a captain, while an esquire easily ranked both the deacon and the captain and even contested honors with the major and the colonel.

The town being assembled according to adjournment a matured plan was presented for the consideration of the town:

The Committee chosen the 30th of October last have made the following draft of a meeting-house viz: that said House be sixty feet in length and forty-five feet in width, twenty-six feet between joints with two porches and a cover over the front door; with an elder's seat for people who are hard of hearing between the deacons seat and the pulpit; 70 Pewes: 46 below and twenty-four above. The Pewes to be sold at Vendue to the highest bidder. Boards and Shingles and Clapboards to be got in the same way. The Committee propose to begin to fraim the house on the 20th of May in the year of our Lord 1791. The question was then asked whether the report should be accepted and it passed in the affirmative. It was then voted to choose nine men to be a committee to direct the building of the new meeting-house. Also voted to set the new meeting-house back so far as the burying yard wall and that the east end of the house be placed six feet east of the west end of the old house.

The length of both meeting-houses extended from east to west. The new house was a short distance north of the old and extended westerly fifty-four feet beyond it. There is no record of the choice of the committee of nine ordered by the town, but incidental references to the progress of the work, under the direction of a building committee, render it certain that such a committee was chosen. And at a subsequent meeting it was "voted to dismiss the old committee

for building the meeting-house and chose Samuel Wilder, Joshua Smith, Esq., and Samuel Foster a committee to compleat the work."



THE SECOND MEETING-HOUSE IN ASHBURNHAM, ERECTED 1791.

The new committee vigorously forwarded the work. The frame was raised May 24 and the house was completed November 4, 1791. Three days later the town accepted the final report of the committee, and the new meeting-house was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies on the tenth of the same month. In anticipation of the completion of the house the pews were sold and the proceeds of the sale was applied to the cost of construction. The records afford very little information concerning the cost of the house. The town appropriated in all one hundred and sixty pounds, and added to this sum the amount received from the sale of the old house which was torn down in October. It is therefore apparent that the greater part of the cost of the new meeting-house was paid with money received from the sale of the pews.

In 1808, the town paid Jacob Fairbanks for building four additional pews on the ground floor. These were sold at auction for the sum of three hundred and ninety-two dollars. The proceeds of this sale was the origin of the pew notes which became a bone of contention between the town and the parish.

To paint the new meeting-house in becoming color next demanded the attention and united wisdom of the town. Every citizen was privileged to vote and it was the concurrent taste of the town that "the color should be a pea green." The meeting was assembled at a season of the year when the vernal sun first begins to warm the brown and russet fields which gayly respond with the springing blade and bursting leaf, and in warm sympathy with nature as she paints the earth in the fresh liveries of green, the town produces its first poem. For some reason there was a delay in carrying the vote into effect. At a meeting assembled March 2, 1798, having escaped an inspiration to copy the yellow of the harvest or the crimson and gold of the autumn, and beholding the earth covered with the snow and ice of winter, they consistently resolve to reconsider the former vote and to paint the meeting-house white.

The town continued in the faithful performance of the auxiliary offices of a parish until 1824. The causes which led to the dissolution of the long established relations between the town and the church are apparent. The system was not in harmony with the spirit of our Government. In the dual organization, the members of the church and those in full sympathy with them were a majority of the town, and by their controlling voice the minority were annually taxed under a continued protest. The spirit of tolerance sometimes abated a resisted tax, but it presented no argument in support of the general principles involved. Indeed, the

majority, conscious of the injustice of the system, secured its continuance many years by the exercise of a commendable degree of tolerance to those who stoutly resisted, yet excusing the act in a plea of the sacred use to which the money was devoted, they exacted tribute from all who only passively objected. Like every revolution of a system the beginning was remote from the end and early efforts produced no immediate effect. Manifestations of discontent and the responsive answers of a spirit of tolerance gradually led to the abatement of so considerable a part of the taxes assessed that the system was practically overthrown some years before the outward forms were abandoned. During the last year of this nominal connection, warrants for town meetings for the transaction of parochial business were addressed to all the inhabitants qualified to vote who are members of the Congregational society. The town clerk attended these meetings and recorded the proceedings in the town records. Under this amended system, the town only assessed those for the support of the parish whose consent was first obtained. This procedure virtually created a voluntary parish for which the town was only an agent and in such capacity continued to call meetings and to assess and collect the annual taxes. In principle it was an amendment on the former system, containing the germ which speedily developed in the organization of a permanent religious society.

Among the many votes of the town expressive of public sentiment on the subject of the preceding paragraph is an order adopted in 1781 that Jacob Willard, Jacob Kiblinger, John Kiblinger, Nathan Bigelow, Jacob Constantine, Joshua Holden, Elisha Coolidge, Ebenezer Conant, Jr., and Jonathan Taylor be excused from the payment of a minister tax for that year. In 1797 Colonel Francis Lane was excused from the payment of the same tax. Immediately after the com-

pletion of the second meeting-house, in response to the request of certain individuals, the town "Voted that the Baptist Society have leave to meet in the new meeting-house on week days for religious worship by applying to the door-keeper for the keys. Also when it shall so happen that the Church and Congregation usually meeting in said house are destitute of a preacher and do not want to use said house on the Sabbath that said Baptist Society shall have leave to meet in said house." Encouraged by this proceeding the town was requested "to abate the minister tax laid on the non-resident lands owned by the Baptists." Upon this proposition the town voted in the negative. The final parochial service of the town occurred in 1823 and 1824. The town assumed the expenses of the funeral of Rev. Dr. Cushing amounting to $65.45, and continued the salary until the following November. It also joined with the church in extending a call to Rev. George Perkins and directed the arrangements for his ordination. These offices at the eve of a dissolution of the relations between the town and the church were a fitting conclusion of a continued and honorable service. So far as the town was concerned, the only remaining topics of a kindred nature were the custody of the meeting-house and the control of the ministerial funds. The debate on these points between the town and the Congregational society can be presented more clearly after the other party to the controversy has been introduced.

The causes which suggested the organization of an independent parish consecutively follow those which led to the termination of the former relations. In the early history of the town nearly all the inhabitants were united in matters of religion and they adopted the readiest and most feasible method of sustaining public worship. The removal into town of families of other denominations and the alienation

of as many from the standing church and particularly the rapid growth of the Methodist society, and the bolder independence of those who adhered to neither the Orthodox, Methodist, Baptist nor any other creed, made it clearly apparent that every denomination should assume the control and management of its prudential affairs. The expediency of such an organization was seriously debated during the last years of the ministry of Dr. Cushing. Indeed, an association at that time was formed but "The Congregational Society or First Parish" did not have a legal existence until April 27, 1824, a short time after the settlement of Rev. George Perkins. At that date the society assumed the offices of a parish and has continued an efficient ally of the church with which it has been connected until the present time. The petition for a meeting of organization, dated April 8, 1824, was signed by Ivers Jewett, Oliver Marble, Charles Barrett, Elisha White, Fitch Crosby, Asa Woods, Grover Scollay, Joshua Townsend, Abraham Lowe, Joseph Rice and Doddridge Cushing. That eighty-one or more members were present at the first meeting is shown by a statement in the records that "the whole number of votes for a clerk of the parish was 81 and all for Charles Barrett." At the same meeting over which Timothy Stearns was called to preside, Joseph Jewett, Esq., Elias Lane and Walter Russell were selected for assessors. The duties of this office were more onerous than the term suggests. In addition to the assessment of taxes the assessors were expected to oversee all the prudential concerns of the society. At this meeting the sum of four hundred and fifty dollars was raised to pay the salary of the minister and by the following vote the unsettled questions with the town were introduced. "Voted that the assessors be a committee to look up the funds of the society laying in the hands of the selectmen."

This fund consisted of certain money and credits derived from the sale of the ministerial lands and the residue of the sale of the pews in the second meeting-house. This action of the society explains in a measure a vote of the town on the first day of November "to choose a committee of four to join with the selectmen to meet with the committee of the Congregational Society or First Parish to regulate the ministerial funds and the pew notes if they belong to said society and give them up to said society. Chose George R. Cushing, Dr. Abraham Lowe, Oliver Samson & Capt. John Willard. Voted to choose two more men to add to the committee and chose Joseph Jewett and Ivers Jewett." The selectmen for the time being were Silas Willard, Hezekiah Corey and John Adams, Jr.

This was an able committee and it represented both sides of the pending question. Mr. Cushing, Dr. Lowe, Joseph and Ivers Jewett were active members of the Congregational society, while Silas Willard, John Willard, Mr. Samson and Mr. Corey were equally prominent in the Methodist society. John Adams, Jr., held the balance of power in case the deliberations of the committee were influenced by selfish motives or denominational proclivities. It was undoubtedly at the suggestion of members of the Congregational society that the Jewetts were added to the committee in order to secure a stronger representation in its councils. The result of their deliberations was laid before the town at a meeting assembled April 4, 1825, in the following report:

The committee chosen at the town meeting on the first day of November last for the purpose of making a division of the ministerial fund and property belonging to the first parish met at Jewett & Woods' store, and beg leave to report viz: chose I. Jewett clerk.

2d On motion voted that all votes passed by said committee be laid before the town at their next annual March meeting.

3d Voted that the First Parish in said town of Ashburnham shall draw the interest of the Pew Notes.

4th Voted that the said First Parish shall draw the interest of one half of the ministerial and school funds.

5th Voted that the clerk and chairman sign the above report.

SILAS WILLARD, } Chairman of the Committee.

I. JEWETT, Clerk.

To the school fund the parish laid no claim and it is probable through careless methods in the conduct of town business it had been united so long with the ministerial fund that the identity of each was lost. Since the two funds were derived from the sale of equal parcels of land, neither would greatly exceed the other in value. It appears to have been the intention of the committee to reserve the interest of the school fund for the town and to bestow the interest of the ministerial fund on the parish. To these recommendations the town was not favorably inclined and refused to adopt any of the votes suggested by the committee. In the mean time the following petition had been presented to the selectmen and a town meeting had been called to consider the same questions in another form.

To the Gentlemen, Selectmen of the town of Ashburnham:

We the undersigned inhabitants of the said town request you to insert an article in your next March meeting warrant "To see if the town will give up to the Congregational Society or First Parish in said town the ministerial fund belonging to said parish it being for what the ministerial land was sold for, Also the notes that are in the Treasury which were given for pews sold in the meeting-house belonging to said Society or Parish with the interest on the aforesaid notes for one year last past."

ASHBURNHAM, Feb. 12, 1825.

JOSEPH JEWETT
ABRAHAM T. LOWE
DAVID CUSHING
D. CUSHING
OLIVER GREEN
JONAS NUTTING
GRANT HOUSTON
JOHN CALDWELL

An article was duly inserted in the warrant and a decision was finally reached:

Voted to give the ministerial fund and the pew notes to the First Parish in said town of Ashburnham agreeable to the request of Joseph Jewett and others and the selectmen are required to give orders accordingly.

In pursuance of this liberal course on the part of the town the funds were transferred to the custody and possession of the Congregational society. For ten years the decision was accepted as final and so far as evidence is found it was generally regarded as just and proper. From what motive the question was opened and the controversy renewed would be difficult to determine. In a warrant for the annual meeting in 1835 the heralds declare that the armistice is ended and the contestants who have rested on their arms for a decade are again summoned to renewed hostilities.

To see if the town will reconsider the vote that was passed in 1825; the town then voting that the pew notes and other property in fund, originally belonging to the town, into the hands of the clerk or treasurer of the First Parish and also to choose a committee to examine into all those funds and to see what part thereof rightfully belongs to the first parish and have the other put right.

On the first clause, the town took no action but chose a committee of five to make the specified examination. This committee consisted of George R. Cushing, Charles Hastings, Jr., Dr. Nathaniel Pierce, Silas Willard and Ebenezer Frost. Mr. Cushing was the only earnest friend of the parish and he refused to join with the others in the following report:

Your committee, chosen at the March meeting to investigate the state of the funds arising from the sale of school and ministry lands and other property &c, have attended to that duty and ask leave to report. Your committee find by the Proprietors Book of Records that the tract of land now called Ashburnham was granted to sixty soldiers or individuals or their heirs who served in the Canada Expedition as a bounty for their services by the General Court of the Province of Massachusetts Bay, and said Court in their grant reserved lots of land viz: one to the first settled Minister, one for the Ministry, one for the school; and the sixty Proprietors of the Township six miles square then called Dorchester Canada, gave one lot in each division (as it appears they made four divisions) it being four lots in all for the Minister, four for the Ministry and four for the school with Equivalents. Also the Proprietors granted one lot of ten acres where the meeting-house stands, provided the town build and keep a house thereon for Public Worship. The lots granted to the first settled minister seem to have been disposed of by the Rev. Mr. Winchester. Your committee find by the records that the town voted and chose agents to sell the public lands and we find by the records that some of the Ministry and School lots were sold and the interest applied in buying the Rev. Mr. Cushing's fire wood, and the said funds have ever since, except a small part, been retained in the hands of agents or persons then belonging to the first parish but have since alienated themselves from the old meeting-house Elsewhere for public worship and they have seized upon the school fund or a part thereof contrary to any vote of said town and carried it away with them. Therefore your committee, after due consideration,

resolves that the town pass a vote to return the funds that was given to said town for the use of the ministry to the hands of the town treasurer, there to remain a fund according to the appropriation. Resolved as we find by records and a parchment plan of said town, that the common land that has been sold and deeded for ministry land the amount of such should be returned to the treasury for its proper use. Resolved that as the town sold Pews in the old meeting-house on conditions that the amount they sold for should be funded and the interest of said fund be appropriated to repair the meeting-house, that the principal with the interest be returned to the treasury to be kept for that purpose. Resolved that those members or agents that have alienated from the old meeting-house elsewhere for public worship deliver to the hands of the town treasurer the amount of monies that accrued from the sale of school lands with the interest that it may be applied agreeable to the appropriation. Resolved that the town pass a vote and agree with some person residing near said meeting-house to take and keep the key of said house so that the Baptists may occupy the same for Religious Worship agreeable to a vote of said town.

Should the agents or members, belonging formerly to the first parish or old meeting-house, but have since alienated themselves with monies or property belonging thereto, refuse to comply with these terms,

Resolved that the town pass a vote authorizing the committee or agents to prosecute forthwith to final judgment.

CHARLES HASTINGS, JR.,
SILAS WILLARD,
NATHANIEL PIERCE,
EBENEZER FROST,
} Committee of said Town.

May 4, 1835.

The report was accepted but none of the recommendations were adopted. The town clerk found employment in its entry upon the records but no other result ensued. However, the general issue, which was crushed beneath the

weight of this ponderous report, was referred to Charles Stearns, Asahel Corey and Kilburn Harwood, with instructions to meet a like committee of the Congregational society "with the view to ascertain more fully the rights of the town and parish in said funds."

An early report from this committee was also accepted but no trace of its recommendations has been found. At the succeeding meeting the town "voted to accept of the ministerial fund," but through a failure of the society to pass a responsive vote to give it up, the vote at once expressed the willingness and the inability of the town to secure it. Through the last stage of the controversy the society had the advantage of possession and during the prolonged demonstrations of the town they continued to fortify their position with a dignified silence. At other times the subject was debated in town meeting, but the remaining votes of the town were only repetitions of those that have been noticed. If any one desires to learn more of this dispute between the worthies of the town and the officers of the parish he may fan the embers of the controversy found in another chapter in connection with an account of the removal of the second meeting-house to its present location.

In 1832 the Methodist society completed its first house of worship in the village. Actuated we trust more from a spirit of emulation than of rivalry, the First Parish began to consider the expediency of removing its house from the old common to the centre of the village, and to rebuild the interior after a more modern plan. No sooner was the project proposed than a decided opposition was developed. The owners of the pews in the old house demanded payment for their property interest, and the town asserting an undefined control of the house frowned upon the society in the pretence of any right to remove it or to exercise

any control over it beyond its accustomed use where it stood. And the fact that the town had no clear idea of its own authority in the premises, left it free to assert any pretension and to oppose the society at every point. Foreseeing the difficulties that would attend any other course of proceeding, the society early and wisely decided to build a new house and subsequently to surrender the old house and the pending demands of the pew owners to the town.

In September, 1832, the society postponed but did not abandon the enterprise, and while the intentions of the parish were beginning to ripen into an early execution a voluntary association of its members proposed to build the house on their own responsibility. It only remained for the society as an organization to grant the gentlemen leave to proceed and to select a location for the new meeting-house. In February, 1833, the following propositions were adopted:

Voted that certain individuals who are disposed may build a new meeting-house agreeable to their proposition which is that the expense of building be divided into twenty shares and after the house is completed to sell or let the pews as they have opportunity.

Voted to choose a committee of five to select a suitable location for said meeting-house and chose

George G. Parker, Samuel Ward, John Caldwell, Hosea Green, John C. Glazier,	Committee.

Voted to adjourn for one week from this day at one o'clock in the afternoon.

Feb. 11, met according to adjournment, the committee presented their report which was read.

Voted that the meeting-house may be built on either of the two



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

lots — Sawyer's or the one George R. Cushing proposes. The Sawyer lot was selected.

Other locations were considered by the committee but were not embraced in their report. One of these was on the opposite side of Main street; another a short distance south of the Powder House; another at the junction of the road from North Ashburnham and Main street; and another where the barn of Nathaniel Pierce now stands. The amount paid Mr. Sawyer for the lot was two hundred and twenty-five dollars. The addition to the lot on the north was presented in 1869 by Colonel Charles Barrett. The names of the persons who assumed the responsibility and proceeded to build the meeting-house do not appear in the records. The twenty shares were taken as follows: Thomas Hobart, two shares; Reuben Townsend, Charles Barrett, Ebenezer Flint, George G. Parker, Dr. William H. Cutler, Joseph Jewett, Harvey M. Bancroft, Philip R. Merriam, Philip R. Merriam, Jr., Harvey Brooks, Elijah Brooks, Samuel Woods, Samuel S. Stevens, Joel Brooks, Horatio J. Holbrook, Hosea Green, Levi Rice, Edmund Sawyer, one share each.

Under the direction of this efficient organization the present meeting-house was begun in the summer of 1833 and speedily completed. It was dedicated February 19, 1834. The cost of construction exceeded the amount received from the sale of the pews, but the loss was sustained by the organization that had volunteered to build the house. The heavy, clear-toned bell which still hangs in the belfry was purchased by subscription in January, 1834, at an expense of five hundred and seventeen dollars.

The new meeting-house being completed, and the former entangling alliances with the town dissolved, the parish

entered upon an era of concord and quietude. Occasionally called upon to join with the church in the dismissal or settlement of a minister, its chief and successful employment has been to raise money for the payment of current expenses. At times the money has been secured with difficulty but the parish, by a conciliatory policy and by consulting its members in regard to methods of taxation and voluntary subscriptions, has met its obligations and has seldom suffered its fortunes to be dimmed by the cloud of debt. Through the indifference of many the burden has rested more heavily upon others, yet at all times a reliant purpose has met every obstacle and overcome every difficulty. During the past sixty years the salary paid the minister has been increased from time to time from four hundred and fifty to twelve hundred dollars.

The meeting-house was thoroughly remodelled in 1869. After an ineffectual discussion of many plans and several inoperative votes of the parish a number of gentlemen generously volunteered to become responsible for the expense of rebuilding the house. The repairs were immediately made under the direction of Ohio Whitney, Jr., William P. Ellis, Jerome W. Foster, George C. Winchester and Addison A. Walker. The amount expended was about thirteen thousand dollars. The deficit, after the sale of the pews, was assumed and soon paid by the parish. At this time a superior pipe organ was purchased by subscription. The parsonage was purchased in 1864, and in it are invested the ministerial fund received from the town and the legacy of Mrs. Lucy Davis.

CHAPTER X.

ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY. — CONTINUED.

THE METHODISTS. — THE FIELD AND THE SITUATION. — THE EARLY PREACHERS. — THE FIRST MEETING-HOUSE. — THE SECOND MEETING-HOUSE. — THE MINISTERS.

THE UNION CHURCH. — THE ELEMENTS COLLECTED. — THE MEETING-HOUSE. — A CHURCH EMBODIED. — THE EARLY PREACHERS. — ELDER EDWARD A. ROLLINS. — REV. A. A. WHITMORE. — TEMPORARY SUPPLIES. — REV. DANIEL WIGHT. — THE PARISH. — PERSONAL NOTICES. — THE DEACONS.

THE BAPTISTS. — PREACHERS WITHOUT PAY. — STEPHEN GIBSON. — DISINTEGRATION.

ADVENTISTS. — THEIR BELIEF. — NO CHURCH ORGANIZATION.

THE CATHOLICS. — FIRST SERVICES IN THIS TOWN. — PURCHASE A MEETING-HOUSE. — REV. JOHN CONWAY.

METHODIST CHURCHES were organized in many of the towns in this vicinity in rapid succession. It was during the last decade of the past century. In its outline features the history of the introduction of Methodism and of the growth and progress of the churches planted by the early preachers is the same throughout New England. Until the arrival of the pioneer preachers of a new faith, in every town there was one church of the standing order which, founded soon after the settlement of the town, had remained the sole occupant of the field. Over each of these churches the "learned orthodox minister" was settled for life and labored without a rival. The orthodox minister of the olden time was an earnest and solemn laborer, austere in manner,

dignified in bearing; faithful and diligent as a pastor he labored for his people with singleness of purpose. With formal precision he visited the sick and comforted the mourner in learned phrases. His counsel was the voice of wisdom, while his sympathies were congealed in the solemnity of his presence. Standing half way between God and man, there was a fixedness about him that invited the reverence and commanded the homage of the people. His sermons, logically arranged, were earnest and solemn appeals to the reason of his hearers. From the lofty pulpit of the olden time he maintained his accustomed eminence among his flock and through the week he walked in even lines above them. They respected him, addressed him, thought of him with reverence, and if any loved him they loved him with an admixture of awe that suffered no passage of the gulf that separated the minister from the hearts of the people. If neither the example of his life nor the spirit of his discourse invoked the emotions or aroused the sudden impulse, he moulded and solidified the character and persuaded men to live under the guidance of principle and a rational sense of duty.

The minister of that day is a character prominent and still honored in the annals and traditions of the past. In the midst of his supremacy came the pioneer preacher of Methodism. These heralds of a new creed announced their message with plainness of speech and simplicity of manner. Their early success sprang more from the manner of the man than from the matter of their discourse. They lived among the people and when not engaged in exhortation they conversed and mingled with them. They neither spoke from pulpits nor held themselves aloof from their fellow-men. They preached in dwellings, in barns and in the groves. While preaching they stood on a level with their hearers.

Wisely assuming that the clergy of the standing order had faithfully instructed the masses and inculcated among them a general knowledge of the Christian religion they asserted the tenets peculiar to their sect. If they appealed to the emotions of men they satisfied a hunger of the soul that the teachings of the older school could not appease; and if they became earnest and impassioned in manner they felt a responsive echo in the worship of the multitude.

With such labor and under such conditions the early Methodist preachers found adherents in every community. They rapidly planted churches and confiding them to the self-sustaining influences of the class-meeting they passed on to new fields and to renewed conquests. Over these infant churches a preacher was not assigned for a stated time. Indeed the earlier preachers were not fixed in their fields of labor, but were transferred so rapidly from one station to another that we gain but glimpses of their approaching or retiring presence. When assembled for worship, mysteriously there came a minister to preach to them; from whence he came, or where he went, or the name of the roving preacher, is difficult to determine.

The introduction of Methodism into Ashburnham in method and in the attending conditions was similar to the general work and success of the youthful church throughout the country. In a historical discourse delivered at Ashburnham July 9, 1882, Rev. Stephen Cushing has succinctly stated the prominent events connected with its growth and progress. To that discourse is credited many of the events in the following paragraphs. Within five years from the introduction of Methodism into New England, Rev. John Hill preached the first Methodist sermon at the house of Lemuel Stimson in the north part of the town. This was in the autumn of 1793. Early in the following year a society of

eight members was constituted and soon meetings began to be held with considerable regularity at the house of Silas Willard, Esq. In the autumn of 1796 Lorenzo Dow preached to the infant society in this town. This famous preacher was then nineteen years of age. The following extract from his journal refers to this occasion: "October 23, 1796, I spoke in Hardwick to about four hundred people; thence to Petersham and Winchendon, to Fitchburgh and likewise to Notown where God gave me one spiritual child. Thence to Ashburnham, where we had some powerful times."

In 1800 a quarterly meeting attended by Rev. John Broadhead, a presiding elder, was held in the town. At this time the church embraced a membership of fifty or more. Three years later Bishops Asbury and Whatcoat preached at the house of Mr. Willard by whom they were entertained. Preaching was maintained in the north part of the town and a society with increasing numbers was in existence thirty-eight years. The preachers were frequently transferred to other fields in the intervals between the formal assignments by the Conference. From the records of such appointments and transfers it is found that during this time sixty-five preachers had been designated for Ashburnham and dependent societies. A society was organized in Westminster in 1814 and a few families in the south part of the town were included in its membership.

In 1831 the Ashburnham and Westminster societies were made a station and a pastor assigned them. This arrangement was of short duration and only one appointment, that of Rev. Nathan B. Spaulding, was made. The following year the Ashburnham society, having proposed to build a meeting-house at the centre of the town, was made a station and has continued to the present time an independent organization. It was during the year of the union with the West-

minster society, and perhaps suggested by the inconvenience of that arrangement, that active measures for building a meeting-house were proposed and favorably entertained. At that time the trustees were Joshua Burgess, Luther Barrell, John Kibling, Lemuel Whitney, John Willard, James Puffer, Silas Willard, Lemuel Stimson, Stephen Cushing, Oliver Samson and Hezekiah Corey. A considerable sum of money was raised by subscription and the work fairly begun in the autumn of 1831. The house was completed without suspension of the work and was dedicated July 4, 1832. The dimensions were fifty-six by forty-one feet.

Again, thirty-eight years is an epoch in the history of the Methodist church of Ashburnham. The present commodious house of worship was erected in 1870. It was then seventy-six years since the organization of the church in this town. Dividing the time in two equal portions, was the building of the first meeting-house in 1832. The first span of time had witnessed the growth of the church from a class of eight persons to one hundred members. Through many discouragements they had existed and had increased. At all times their ardor had been unabated. Through all these years of their early history they found many occasions for devout gratitude for the past and buoyant hope for the future. During the second period, or while occupying the first meeting-house, they were attended with continued prosperity. The visible results are witnessed by many seasons of spiritual power and by frequent and considerable addition to the membership of the church.

At the close of the second epoch, the erection of the present church edifice was undertaken. In 1869 the site for the proposed building was purchased and the foundations were laid. From the board of trustees Reuben Puffer, Nathaniel Eaton and Andrew J. Smith were chosen a build-

ing committee, to which Charles Winchester was joined. Under the management of these gentlemen the work upon the building was begun in the spring of 1870 and the house was substantially completed during that year. The interior decoration and furnishing were completed the following summer and the house was dedicated July 20, 1871. The cost of construction was about thirty thousand dollars which far exceeded the first estimates and the burden fell heavily upon the society. The organ, from the factory of Hook and Hastings, was presented by Charles Winchester. During the succeeding ten years the debt contracted in constructing an expensive edifice was gradually reduced, but was not fully paid until during the ministry and through the efforts of Rev. Nathaniel B. Fisk. Two members of the church contributed at this time a sum exceeding the entire cost of the first meeting-house.

From 1870 to the present time the outward history of the church has been uneventful. The stated ministrations have been maintained and commendable donations have been credited to the benevolence of the society. The spiritual history of all these years and the influences of the church over the souls of men are among the unwritten revelations of another world. The minutes of the Conference contain the names of sixty-five preachers who were assigned previous to 1832 to the station to which Ashburnham belonged. It is evident that several of them after a brief labor here were transferred to other stations; and, possibly, a few of them did not even arrive here before they received new appointments to other places. Nor were any of them assigned unreservedly to the Ashburnham church but to the circuit to which this church belonged. Very few of them were temporarily resident here. Their labors were divided among several societies of which this was the strongest and most prominent.

Since Ashburnham became a station in 1832, a pastor has been assigned without reservation and has lived during the term of his appointment among his charge. The number of these appointments is thirty-four. Of these seventeen, including the present pastor, have remained one year, fourteen two years and under the modern revision of the rules, three have received a third appointment. After an interval of several years Rev. Pliny Wood and Rev. Austin F. Herrick were returned to this town and are twice enumerated, but the brief pastorate of Rev. H. B. Skinner who filled an unexpired appointment is not included. All were worthy, exemplary pastors. With varied gifts and acquirements, none have failed in duty to their charge, and all have been fellow-laborers with men of their own and other denominations in the reforms and benevolence of their time.

The names of the pastors and the membership of the church since Ashburnham was made a station are as follows:

	PASTORS.	MEMBERSHIP.
1832.	Nathan B. Spaulding	101
1833.	Hebron Vincent	107
1834–5.	John W. Case	120
1836.	Charles Noble	130
1837–8.	William R. Stone	148
1839.	William P. White	121
1840–1.	Horace Moulton. H. B. Skinner, 6 months	180
1842.	John W. Merrill	184
1843.	Newell S. Spaulding	205
1844–5.	Howard C. Dunham	155
1846.	William B. Olds	142
1847.	David Kilburn	108
1848–9.	Pliny Wood	110
1850.	Jonathan L. Esty	114
1851–2.	Moses P. Webster	106
1853–4.	Cyrus L. Eastman	116

1855–6.	Austin F. Herrick	130
1857.	Lorenzo White	138
1858–9.	Pliny Wood	135
1860–1.	Ichabod Marcy	131
1862–3.	William Pentecost	137
1864.	Jonas M. Clark	122
1865–6.	John A. Lansing	153
1867–8.	Walter Wilkie	180
1869.	Nathan D. George	170
1870.	Joseph W. Lewis	149
1871.	L. P. Causey	140
1872–4.	Austin F. Herrick	171
1875–6.	James W. Fenno	165
1877–9.	William H. Cook	159
1880–2.	Nathaniel B. Fisk	149
1883.	John H. Mansfield	149
1884.	Emory A. Howard	153
1885.	Austin H. Herrick	147

The Union Church. — The causes which led to the building of a meeting-house and the embodiment of a church at North Ashburnham are mainly apparent at the present time. It is probable and it is reasonable to presume that the controlling motives were sustained and encouraged by many minor impulses which are neither reflected in the record nor preserved in the memory of the few now living who were active in the initial proceedings. A half century ago that portion of the town was more populous than at present and in that community were several men of influence and enterprise. The families residing in that vicinity for a long time had been sensible of the burden of the distance that separated them from the church at Ashburnham Centre to which they belonged. These, for many years, had frequently yet timidly suggested some measures of relief. Among them were a few families who were not in full sympathy with the

controlling influences of the parent church, and joined with these were others not allied to the church at the Centre nor were they Congregationalists.

The latter class, actuated both by conscience and convenience, were ready to join in the organization of a union church with tenets inviting an evangelical alliance. There were many meetings and conferences of which no record was made, and concerning which very little accurate information can be secured. The work which met them at the outset was the building of a meeting-house and to this undertaking they directed their efforts with courage and enthusiasm. The edifice built for the proprietors by Ohio Whitney, Jr., and Samuel Howard was completed in 1842 and dedicated in December of that year. In the new house preaching was maintained by voluntary effort for several months. The church was embodied February 21, 1843. The creed was evangelical and while it omitted any declarations upon doctrinal questions that were the distinguishing tenets of the Congregational, Methodist and Baptist faith, it was an unequivocal expression on all points entertained in common by those churches. The original membership was fifty-five, of whom a majority was of Orthodox Congregational antecedents and the remainder were Methodists and Freewill Baptists. Of this membership twenty-five were received by dismissal and recommendation from the parent church; a few from the Freewill Baptist church and several from the Methodists. During the early years of its existence the church and parish had no settled minister.

The earlier preachers were Rev. William Hills, who remained several months, and Rev. Samuel Cole, who was acting pastor three years. Early in the year 1846 Elder Edward B. Rollins was hired to preach one year. This ministry introduced an era of discord. The season of har-

mony and fraternal relations, which crowned the early history of the church with continued blessings, was abruptly ended and for many years the bitterness of feeling then engendered was frequently the cause of renewed contention. Following Mr. Rollins, Rev. Josiah D. Crosby preached one year and he was succeeded by Rev. A. A. Whitmore, who remained four years and was the first minister installed over the church. Succeeding Mr. Whitmore was a prolonged era of supplies and at times the records afford ample evidence that the salary of the minister was raised with great labor and effort. During this period the pastors were Rev. Josiah W. Brown, Rev. Woodbury and Rev. Asa Barnes.

In 1860 the original church, known as the Union Church, was disbanded. The few members remaining, who were found prepared for continued effort, at once proceeded to organize a new church, to be known as "The Second Congregational Church of Ashburnham." The creed was amended and the church was embodied June 19, 1860. The number of members received at the time of reorganization was eleven. The number was small and the burden comparatively heavy; yet, aided by the Congregational Home Missions, they succeeded in overcoming many obstacles and for several years in maintaining the stated ministrations of the gospel.

Rev. Samuel H. Peckham supplied the desk for a season and in 1863 Mr. George H. Blake was made pastor in charge and engaged for one year with an understanding that, unless for cause, the relation should be continued indefinitely. Soon after Mr. Blake began his labors he was ordained in the ministry but was not installed over the church and the existing relations were abruptly terminated before the close of the first year.

Rev. Daniel Wight, having supplied a few Sabbaths, accepted a call extended with great unanimity and was

installed June 22, 1864. The relation was profitably and fraternally continued until April 1, 1871. Immediately preceding this ministry the creed and rules of procedure were amended, and during its continuance the affairs, both of the church and the parish, were promptly and prudently administered.

Succeeding Mr. Wight, Rev. Charles Peabody was made an acting pastor and continued his labors until May 16, 1875. He was succeeded by Rev. William T. Lewis who maintained a dual relation with this church and the church in Winchendon Centre.

The preliminary conferences in regard to the maintenance of stated preaching at North Ashburnham led to an early decision to build a meeting-house. A society was immediately formed and under its direction the meeting-house was soon erected. In 1847 the society became a legal corporation under the name of "The Proprietors of Union Meeting-House." Of this organization, Colonel Enoch Whitmore was clerk for many years and until the organization was lost through a failure to hold annual meetings and elect officers as required by law. In 1868, and during the ministry of Mr. Wight, the organization was revived and assumed the nome of the " North Parish of Ashburnham." It is apparent, however, that there was an active society during the years immediately preceding the new organization, but there is a hiatus in the records from 1857 till 1868. The new parish held annual meetings for a short time and then suffered the organization to lapse and at this time it has not been revived.

The bell was purchased by subscriptions obtained in the autumn of 1867 and was placed in position January 23, 1868, by Ohio Whitney and Samuel Howard as a part of their original contract for building the meeting-house. The bell soon failed, but a new one was furnished by the makers, without charge, which was hung in the belfry January 28,

1869. It is a steel combination bell and weighs about eight hundred pounds. The expense attending its purchase and hanging was $265.51.

During the existence of this church and parish only two ministers have been installed and no effort has been made to announce the names of all who have been acting pastors for short periods of time. The church and society are indebted to Isaac D. Ward for the careful preservation of the files and records from which the information in these paragraphs was mainly secured.

Rev. Alfred Alonzo Whitmore, son of Luke Hayden and Phœbe (Cowing) Whitmore, was born near Geneva, Ontario county, New York, July 7, 1817. The family removed in 1825 to the Territory of Michigan and settled near Ann Arbor. Attending the local schools in youth, Mr. Whitmore entered the school at Oberlin, Ohio, in 1838 and was a student in the several departments eight and one-half years, graduating from the academical department 1843 and the theological school in 1846. After a brief supply in several places he began his labor with this church in 1848 and was installed October 18 of that year. He was an earnest, faithful pastor and a plain and acceptable preacher. He was dismissed at his request August 25, 1852. After supplying a few months at Richmond he removed to Ohio, in 1864 to Illinois, and since 1875 he has resided at Anita, Iowa, where he completed a successful ministry in 1880.

Rev. Daniel Wight, a son of Daniel and Zillah (Goulding) Wight, was born in Natick, September 18, 1808. He is a graduate of Harvard University, class of 1837, and of Andover Theological Seminary 1840. His first charge was in Scituate where he was ordained and installed September 28, 1842. Here he labored successfully sixteen years. Commencing 1859 he was stated supply two years at Boylston, and subsequently labored for the American Board

among the Seneca Indians. On account of the failing health of his wife he returned to Natick in 1863 and immediately after he was called to preside over this church. His prudent councils, his untiring interest for the welfare of his charge and his earnest labor in this town will be held in grateful remembrance. At the completion of his ministry here he returned to Natick where he continues to reside.

During the history of the church five have been called to serve as deacons. Daniel Jones was chosen deacon at the organization of the church. Soon after, under the adoption of a rule to choose one deacon each year for a term of two years, Gilman Jones and Joseph Wetherbee were chosen. Except one year Deacon Jones was continued in office by reëlection until his removal from town, and in 1845 John C. Davis was elected and was continued in office until his death June 19, 1883. After 1849 the officers were elected for an indefinite period. Upon the reorganization of the church in 1860, Deacon Davis was continued in service and Horace Balcom was also elected to the office.

THE BAPTISTS.— At an early date there were several families in this town who were styled Baptists. Others of the same faith were residing in Ashby and in Fitchburg. They maintained preaching with considerable regularity during the closing years of the past and the early years of the current century. Professing an unbelief in the maintenance of a salaried clergy they derived their religious instruction from voluntary labor, and in the absence of a minister, which was usual, they enjoyed the exhortations of their own number. Stephen Gibson of Ashby was gifted in this direction and for many years he preached to them with more acceptance than compensation. In 1795, when this sect was most numerous, there were twenty families in this town and as many in Fitchburg connected with this society. They held

their meetings in dwelling-houses and in school-houses near the limits of the adjoining towns, but they never erected a church edifice. The meeting-house built in the north part of Fitchburg, about 1810, was erected and occupied by an organization of Freewill Baptists with whom the older society had little sympathy. The families who waited upon the ministrations of Stephen Gibson and other laymen belonged to a sect which, one hundred years ago, found a few adherents in many New England towns. Professedly they were Calvinistic Baptists and, doubtless, their adherence to the cardinal doctrines of that church fully sustained their right to the name. But the distinguishing feature of their faith, and one in which they were not in harmony with the Baptist church, was an unyielding hostility to the prevailing custom of providing a stated support of the ministry.

Professing that it was "a sin to preach for hire" they relied upon itinerant and local preachers who labored without compensation. No doubt this feature of their creed was fostered and intensified by the intolerant laws of the State which compelled all to contribute to the support of the standing order. Those belonging to this society were excellent people. Some of them were influential and prominent citizens. As soon as the spirit of toleration repealed the compulsory statutes in relation to the support of the clergy, in a great measure the ground of their offence was removed and they gradually became absorbed in other religious societies. In later years there have been Baptists of the modern school in this town but there has been no other organization.

Second Adventists. — For several years there have been a number of families in this town who are known as Second Adventists. They have occasional preaching at South Ashburnham but have no church organization. In religious

belief they are closely allied to the Evangelical churches and are not in full sympathy with the Seventh Day Adventists whose annual conference is held at Battle Creek, Michigan. The members of the denomination in this town observe the first day of the week and cordially unite with the other denominations in the Sabbath-school and in forwarding every good work.

THE CATHOLICS began to maintain religious service in this town in 1851. At that time the number of families was small and they assembled at private houses. With the progress of years the number has increased and for a number of years service was held in the Town Hall with considerable regularity. In 1871 they bought the house they now occupy of the Methodist society. The interior has been remodelled and thoroughly repaired. The congregation is steadily increasing and the visible influence of the service is in the support of good morals. The church is under the spiritual direction of Rev. John Conway who is also in charge of the church in Winchendon. The Catholics, having no cemetery in this town, bury their dead in Fitchburg and in Winchendon.

CHAPTER XI.

SACRED MUSIC.

A TRUTHFUL REMARK OF NO GREAT ACCOUNT. — EARLY ACTION IN RELATION TO SACRED MUSIC. — Y^E PITCH-PIPE. — EARLY HYMN-BOOKS. — NEW TUNES. — FIRST CHORISTERS. — DEACONING THE HYMN. — BASS VIOL. — MUSICAL FAMILIES. — LATER MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATIONAL CHOIR. — THE METHODIST CHOIR.

THE men of Ashburnham have produced their most stirring music in their frequent town meetings, but being of a character unsuited to waft, on the wings of praise, the sentiment of sacred song it cannot be considered under the head of church music. Holding an easy rein over their proclivities in the arena of debate they have made ample amends in curbing opposition to the innovations which have marked the progress and elevation of sacred music in this place. The first reference in the records to this subject occurs at an early date:

To see if the town are willing that the singers should sett together in the Public Worship in any part of the gallery that shall be thought proper.

Voted that the singers shall have the front gallery to set in, in time of Public Worship viz: the men's side as far back as the long pew.

Thus, as far back as 1773 and as far back as the long pew, the town provided for the accommodation and recognized the existence of a choir. That the singers increased

in numbers is seen in a vote a few years later "to let the singers have the front part of the gallery to set in that they may not be so crowded."

In 1774 the church by vote consented to the use of the pitch-pipe "if the chorister please to pitch the tune" and at the same time it was ordered, the records say by a considerable majority, "that no new tunes should be introduced for twelve months and that they should be confined to the tunes that are already in use." There was opposition to the last vote and the records explain that to relieve the minds of many on this point the pastor was requested to name a proper tune for every psalm that was sung. The same year and in connection with these votes a proposal to introduce the verse of Dr. Watts was defeated. The version of Tate and Brady remained in use until near the close of the century. This version, a literal arrangement of the Psalms and some other portions of the Old Testament, with modest pretension to metrical composition, was employed in the Presbyterian and Reformed churches of Great Britain for a long time, and until eventually supplanted by the psalms and hymns of Dr. Watts it was in general use in the churches of New England. In that version our fathers found the familiar lines of the Scriptures and they regarded with grave suspicion the same sentiments expressed in new forms of speech. A copy of the ancient version is seldom found and many of the present generation have little idea of the poetry which the fathers were accustomed to sing. A part of the fifth and the sixty-fifth Psalms, in the version of Tate and Brady, will afford some idea of the general character.

"Lord, in thy wrath, rebuke me not,
Nor in thy hot wrath chasten me,
Lord, pity me, for I am weak;
Lord, heal me, for my bones vex'd be,

Also my soul is vexed sore;
How long, O Lord, wilt thou me forsake?

"Return, O Lord, my soul release;
O, save me for thy mercy's sake.
In death no mem'ry is of thee
And who shall praise thee in the grave.
I faint with groans; all night my bed
Swims: I with tears my couch wash'd have,
Mine eyes with grief is dim and old,
Because of all mine enemies,
But now depart away from me
All ye that work iniquities.

"Silence to thee; thy praise O God,
In Sion, paid shall be.
The vow to thee, who hearest prayers,
All flesh shall come to thee.
Works of iniquity prevail
Against me sore do they,
But as for our transgres-si-ons,
Thou shalt them purge away."

The opposition to the introduction of new tunes is easily understood and was prompted by an impulse which commands respect. For many years our fathers had reverently sung their praises in the familiar strains of York, St. Martin's, Mear and a few other substantial compositions. By constant use these tunes had become sacred to them and a sentiment of reverence triumphed over their musical taste and the allurements of new compositions. The earliest chorister, of whom there is any certain information, was William Benjamin. He was a resident here at the settlement of Mr. Winchester and remained until 1785 when he removed to Vermont. He led the choir several years and was succeeded by Joseph Jewett, Esq., and Lieutenant John Adams. Amos Dickerson, Ebenezer Wood, Levi Whitney, Mrs. Joseph Jewett, Betsey Dickerson, after-

wards the wife of Isaac Jackson, were prominent singers in the first meeting-house, and some of them are found in the choir at a later period. Jacob Kiblinger was a famous singer, but he generally worshipped with the Baptists and was not a constant member of the choir.

Although led by a choir, for many years the singing was mainly congregational, and on account of the small number of books in the possession of the worshippers the practice of reading or lining the hymns was continued about thirty years. After the hymn had been read by the minister one of the deacons would read one or two lines. When that passage had been sung in the animated manner of the time, and while the singers were regaining breath, the deacon read another line or couplet and by this alternating process the longest hymns were fully rendered. In 1788 the church voted that no hymn should be sung without reading if any deacon was present to read it, except the last hymn in the service, but the following year at the request of the town the practice was discontinued altogether.

At the time the congregation began to worship in the second meeting-house a bass viol was introduced, but there is no reference in the records to other instruments until several years later, but it is certain that from an early date the singers were accustomed to select a chorister and to accept the support of any musical instrument that was available. For these reasons very little mention of the conduct of church music is found in the records. For one hundred years an interest in the subject and a commendable pride in home talent has been manifested by the town, and later by the parish, by frequent and liberal appropriations "for the encouragement of singing," and schools of instruction under efficient teachers have been numerous.

More than any other, musical ability is a gift of inheritance. In every community can be found families of musicians. This faculty may present different phases in succeeding generations but the musical ability of the parents is ever renewed in their children. This town has counted among its residents many excellent musicians and many natives of the place have been famous, while others, more remotely associated, can trace their musical inheritance to an Ashburnham parentage. In the following paragraph it will be discovered that many of the prominent members of the choir through all these years were descendants from some of the earliest singers in this town. Catherine, wife of John Kiblinger the emigrant, is distinguished in tradition for qualities of voice and skill in music, and the choir has been indebted to her descendants through several generations. The musical talent of the Adams, Rice, Barrett and the Charles Stearns families has been conspicuous through succeeding generations. As the voice of the parents grew feeble in age or was silent in death, the unbroken song has been sustained in the tuneful notes of their children. Many of these have been prominent in the choir where their services have been appreciated.

Among the singers in the second meeting-house on the old common, whose voices are still heard in the traditions of the choir, were Colonel Charles Barrett, Benjamin Barrett, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Stearns, Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Townsend, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hastings, the brothers John, James and Walter R. Adams, George Lawrence, Josiah White, Harvey M. Bancroft, Mrs. Benjamin Gibbs, a daughter of Reuben Rice, Mrs. James Russell, assisted by the violins of Colonel Charles Barrett and Jonas Rice, the clarionets of Walter R. Adams and Samuel Foster,

the bugle of James Barrett and the bassoon of James Adams.

Several of these continued with the choir in the new meeting-house in the village, and from time to time were reënforced by Amos Taylor, Joseph Kibling, Colonel Joseph P. Rice, Colonel Francis J. Barrett, Colonel George H. Barrett, who entered the choir at an early age, Harvey M. Bancroft, Stephen A. Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Josiah E. White, Mrs. Sally (Thurston) Phillips, Mrs. Shepherd, David and Harvey Laws, Dr. and Mrs. Miller, Mrs. Josephine (Stearns) Tenny, Julia and Caroline Barrett, Mrs. Rebecca (Stearns) Walker, whose cultured voice led the choir several years, and the viols and violins of Deacon J. A. Conn, Harvey M. Bancroft, George H. Lowe, Stephen A. Miller, Horace Samson, the flute of J. E. White and the clarionet skilfully played by Captain A. A. Walker. In this choir Mrs. Julia Houston West began her public singing and C. C. Stearns, when a lad, accurately played the bass viol. The present choir, under the efficient direction of Colonel George H. Barrett, with Miss Augusta Ames organist, is well sustained by the leading voices of Miss Lizzie F. Barrett, Mrs. Georgie S. (Whitney) Greenwood, Mrs. Theresa (Rockwood) Litch and Homer T. Rice.

In the early service of the Methodist church sacred song was the voluntary praise of the congregation, rather than the skilled performance of a choir. In this style of music any failure of culture was fully compensated by fervor and animation. Since the occupancy of the meeting-house in the central village a good choir has been quite generally sustained and very many acceptable singers and several cultured voices have participated in this feature of public worship. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Stearns, who had been teachers of music, were prominent in this choir many years and later

their daughter, Mrs. Walker, was leader of the choir and leading soprano thirteen years. The strong and not untuneful voice of Antipas Maynard is well remembered and his daughters have rendered efficient service. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hastings, Sawyer Rice, Lewis Sabin, Nathaniel F. Cutter, Sarah A. Cutter and many others, are often named in the traditions of the Methodist choir. At the present time Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Eaton are leading singers and Miss Mabel W. Tenney is organist.

CHAPTER XII.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

HOME EDUCATION. — FIRST APPROPRIATION FOR SCHOOLS. — FIRST SCHOOL-HOUSES. — DISTRICTS. — EIGHT DISTRICTS DEFINED. — A NEW DISTRICT. — THE TENTH DISTRICT. — NEW BOUNDARIES. — THE ELEVENTH DISTRICT. — THE DISTRICT SYSTEM ABOLISHED. — SCHOOL-HOUSES. — TEXT-BOOKS. — TEACHERS. — APPROPRIATIONS. — SCHOOL LEGISLATION. — HIGH SCHOOLS. — PRUDENTIAL AFFAIRS. — SUPERVISION.

No sooner had a few families, at remote distances and connected by rude paths through the intervening wilderness, secured the stated ministrations of the gospel, than means were provided for the education of the young. During the early years of the settlement, in which there were no public schools, the young were not suffered to grow up in ignorance. The parents were generally people of intelligence and not a few of considerable culture. They personally attended to the education of their children and there were as many schools in the settlement as there were families. Whatever may have been the measure of instruction in the home circle the results are unmistakable. None grew up in ignorance, and the many evidences of a fair education, made known in the lives of those whose only schooling was at the fireside, are the substance of our knowledge of the instruction of that early period. A part of the children of the Winchester, Foster, Coolidge, Kibling, Whiteman and Coleman families were advanced youth when the first public school was established in this town; yet, compared with the standard of their

times, they were educated, intelligent men and women, and it is clearly evident that the education of the youth of that period was not neglected through a failure of public support. The date of the first entries found in the records on this subject is 1767. Compared with the schools of to-day it was a humble beginning: "Voted to Keep a School and voted Eight Pounds for y^{e} school."

At a meeting assembled a few months later and before any of the appropriation had been expended under an article, "To see where y^{e} Town will keep their School, whether in y^{e} middle of y^{e} Town or Divide it into Quarters or Pass any votes on s^{d} article," it was "Voted y^{t} y^{e} School Should be a moveing School, voted to leave it to y^{e} Select men to make y^{e} Quarters where ye school Shall be Cept, voted it to bee a free School." The term quarter was here employed in the sense of district or division and this use of the word permitted the selectmen to divide the town into an accommodating number of quarters, which was frequently done, without defiance of mathematical terms. During the early existence of the schools the town was divided into three districts, a school being maintained at the centre of the town, another at the Dutch farms and the third in the south part of the town. In 1774, in accordance with the existing arrangement of the districts, the town voted to build three school-houses. This action was promptly reconsidered, and an order was adopted that the town be divided into five quarters and that five school-houses be erected at the expense of the town. At this point there is found no reference to any new districts, but in some way there were seven in the following year. For several years, commencing with 1780, there were ten districts; in 1786, there were nine; in 1794 the number of districts was reduced to eight; but in 1801 a new ninth district was established in the southeast part of the town,

including the estates of Joshua Billings, Reuben Billings, Reuben Rice, Jonathan Winchester, Thomas Gibson, Joseph Gibbs, Caleb Wilder, Jr., and Samuel Dunster.

Thus, at the close of the century, we find the town divided into nine districts, and in each, as will appear, there was a comfortable school-house. While the boundaries of these districts have been subject to frequent changes, and the tenth and eleventh districts have been created by a division of the seventh and first districts, the remaining numbers were bounded substantially as they exist at the present time. From the beginning changes in the boundaries of the districts and requests of individuals to be transferred to an adjacent district have been a prolific source of legislation. In 1805, the subject of a general revision was referred to a committee of one from each district who reported the following year "that it is their unanimous opinion that a general rearrangement throughout the town cannot be advisable, but some alterations, in the southern part of the town, may be attended with good effect." This action did not pacify the town, and many petitions were renewed. In May, 1808, the whole subject was referred to a committee, consisting of Dr. Abraham Lowe, Captain Caleb Wilder, Captain George R. Cushing, Lieutenant John Adams, Mr. Timothy Crehore, Mr. Lemuel Stimson, Captain John Willard, Mr. Caleb Ward and Mr. William Merriam. On the twenty-ninth of November following the committee made a report dividing the town into eight districts, as follows:

District Number One. — To consist of Rev. John Cushing, Moses Tottingham, Abraham Lowe, Horatio Hale, David Cushing, David Cushing, Jr., Joseph Jewett, Grover Scollay, Wm. J. Lawrence, Ephraim Cobleigh, Fitch Crosby, Hosea Stone, widow Nancy Stone, Joseph Miller, widow Brooks, Luther Brooks, Sewell Brooks, Phinehas Stimson, Cyrus Fairbanks, Jacob Fair-

banks, Oliver Samson, David Russell, Caleb Ward, Jr., Nathan Jones, Stephen Randall, Phinehas Randall, Jonas Randall, Joel Barrett, Oliver Marble, Oliver Marble, Jr., Thaddeus Brooks, Jonas Robbins, Shebuel Hobard, Deacon Jacob Harris, Ezekiel S. Metcalf (35).

District Number Two. — Oliver Green, Jesse Ellis, Jonathan Brooks, John Winter, David Wallis, William Ward, Henry Hall, Lemuel Whitney, Nicholas Whiteman, John Hall, David Taylor, Nathan Taylor, George R. Cushing, Jacob Willard, Jacob Constantine, Wait Broughton (16).

District Number Three. — Lieutenant John Adams, Walter R. Adams, James Adams, John Adams, Jr., Thomas Russell, Isaac Hill, Ebenezer Adams, Isaac Reed, William Gates, John Hadley's place, widow Ruth Conn, James Cowee, Jabez Marble, Jonas Rice, Peter Polley, Asa Woods, Asa Sawin, Joshua Billings, George Wilker, Josiah Fletcher (20).

District Number Four. — Reuben Rice, Jonathan Winchester, Joseph Gibbs, Thomas Gibson, William Merriam, Samuel Gates, Samuel Dunster, Nehemiah Maynard, Stephen Maynard, Thomas Hobart, Mrs. Sarah Earle, William Whitney, Samuel Whitney, Stephen Bemis, Deacon Sherebiah Hunt (15).

District Number Five. — Reuben Townsend, widow Conn, Caleb Wilder, Jr., Captain Silas Whitney's place, Samuel Clark, Henry Gates, Ebenezer Munroe, Samuel Phillips, John Gates, Jonathan Samson, Stephen Corey, Deacon Elisha White, John Willard, Joshua Smith, Grover Scollay, Joseph Burgess, Ebenezer Burgess, Simeon Brooks, John Corey, Joseph Stone, Ezra Stone, Elial Bacon, Jonas Reed, Daniel Knight, Jonathan Haven, John Haven, Nathaniel Adams, James Haynes, Phinehas Taylor, Hezekiah Corey (30).

District Number Six. — Timothy Crehore, Benjamin Angier, Joseph Merriam, Moses Sanderson, Timothy Crehore, Jr., Frederick Crosby, Adam Stone, J. Hayden, William Holbrook, Jonah Rice, Nathaniel Foster, David Clark, William Harris (13).

District Number Seven. — Samuel Cotting, Ithamer Fairbanks, James Weston, Colonel Francis Lane, Caleb Ward, Ezra

Lawrence, Enos Jones, Joseph Fenno, Barnabas Baldwin, Abraham Cummings, Grant Houston, Moses Lawrence, Isaac Whitmore, Edmund Jones, Ebenezer B. Davis, widow Kezia Hobart, Captain Silas Willard (17).

District Number Eight. — Simon Willard, Amos Pierce, Daniel Benjamin, Daniel Benjamin, Jr., Nathan Jones' place, William Stearns, Jesse Stearns, Joshua Barton, James Stearns' place, Joseph Steele, Daniel McIntire, Ezra Hastings, Lemuel Stimson, Benjamin Lane, Josiah Lane, Captain Charles Hastings, Henry Willard (17).

At a previous meeting the same year, on the petition of several families residing in the vicinity of Rice pond, a new district had been created for their accommodation. Under the arrangement embraced in the report of the committee these families were restored to the first district and their new district was annulled as soon as organized. Immediately they renewed their solicitations for an independent district and were again successful. In May, 1810, after several hearings the town "Voted to grant the request of Jacob Harris and others, which is to set off the following persons as a school district by themselves, viz. : Jacob Harris, Shebuel Hobart, Oliver Marble, Ezekiel S. Metcalf, Charles Hastings, Joel Barrett, Thaddeus Brooks, John Winter, Jonas Randall, Josiah Lane, Oliver Marble, Jr., and Jonas Robbins."

These radical changes in the district organizations did not restore tranquillity. The continued petitions of individuals to be annexed to a contiguous district were sometimes granted but more generally denied. After several refusals the inhabitants of Lane Village were permitted to organize the tenth district, but the boundaries were not defined by the town until 1829. The vote of the town was as follows: "That Samuel Foster, Ezekiel Metcalf, Francis Lane, Henry Kibling, Henry Kibling, Jr., David Hadley, Caleb Ward,

John Kibling, Francis Kibling, Richard W. Houghton, Elias Lane, Alvin Ward, Henry Gipson, Moses Lawrence, Ebenezer B. Davis, Charles Davis, John C. Davis, Joseph Davis and Humphrey Harris, together with their estates and all the non-resident lands lying within the limits (together with Joel Foster and his estate if he wishes), shall constitute school district Number Ten in the town of Ashburnham."

Again, in 1832 the boundaries of all the districts were definitely established and several changes were made. Many now living were attending school when this order of the town was executed. Those whose former relations were ruthlessly severed, who were thus compelled to attend school in new places, who trod no more the old familiar paths to the school-house, nor met the familiar faces of their former playmates, will even now recall the proceeding with vivid recollection.

A committee, consisting of George G. Parker, John Hall, Asa Woods, Elijah Brooks, Elisha White, Timothy Crehore, Jr., Enoch Whitmore, Jonas Willard, Charles Hastings, Elias Lane, — one from each district, — made the following recommendation which was adopted:

Your committee, appointed at the last March meeting to determine and define the limits of the several school districts, having attended to that duty, would respectfully recommend that the several territories as hereafter bounded and described, with the inhabitants at any time residing thereon, should constitute different districts in this town, to wit:

District Number One. — Beginning at the southeasterly corner of William Whitney's farm and running northerly to the central point in the road between Reuben Townsend, Jr., and Mrs. Hunt; thence northerly so as to cross the county road leading through the village at the north end of Dr. Pierce's east wall near Thomas Hobart's land; thence northerly to the junction of the Ashby road and the road leading to Emery Fairbanks'; thence

northwesterly to a stake and stones on the west side of New Ipswich road north of Corey & Ross' mill; thence in the same direction to a stake and stones on the west side of the road between Jonas Robbins' and the said bank; thence westerly to the south end of Meeting-house pond; thence to the centre of the road fifty rods south of Ezekiel Metcalf; thence northerly in the [line] of said road five rods north of Joel Foster's; thence westerly so as to meet the county road at the east side of the French farm; thence southeasterly to the junction of the roads leading by Oliver Samson's and Josiah Eaton's; thence to a stake and stones on the north side of the road between Samuel Whitney's and Stephen Corey's at the division line between their farms; thence southeasterly so as to cross the road leading by Joseph Harris' at the east end of his south wall near Captain Willard's land; thence north of Mr. Barrett's to the southwest corner of William Whitney's farm at the line of the town of Westminster; thence on said town line to the bounds first mentioned.

District Number Two. — Beginning at Wilker's new road at the line of the town of Ashby; thence running northerly on said Ashby line to the northwest corner of Elnathan Lawrence's farm; thence southerly to the north end of Brooks' pond; thence to the junction of the roads leading by Salmon Rice's and Joseph Dudley's; thence southerly to the east side of Mount Hunger; thence on District Number Three to the bounds first mentioned.

District Number Three. — Beginning at the junction of the Ashby road and the road leading by Emery Fairbanks'; thence easterly to a pair of bars across a pathway leading to Nathaniel Cutter's; thence easterly to the southeast corner of Joshua Billings' farm; thence north on the line of the town of Ashby to Wilker's new road; thence westerly to the side of Mount Hunger; thence westerly to the northwest corner of Stephen Lane's pasture; thence southerly to the bounds first mentioned.

District Number Four. — Beginning at the southeast corner of William Whitney's farm; thence on District Number One to the central point in the road between Reuben Townsend, Jr., and Mrs. Hunt's; thence northerly crossing the county road at the

north end of Dr. Pierce's east wall to the junction of the Ashby road and the road leading to Emery Fairbanks'; thence easterly on District Number Three to a pair of bars across a passway leading to Nathaniel Cutter's; thence easterly to the southeast corner of Joshua Billings' farm; thence southerly and westerly on the line of the towns of Ashby, Fitchburg and Westminster to the bounds first mentioned.

District Number Five. — Beginning at the southwesterly corner of William Whitney's farm; thence northwesterly on the north side of William Barrell's and on District Number One to the junction of the roads leading by Oliver Samson's and Josiah Eaton's; thence westerly so as to cross the turnpike leading to P. R. Merriam's at Sanderson's corner; thence to the line of Gardner on the north side of Hezekiah Corey's farm; thence southerly and easterly on the town line of said Gardner and Westminster to the bounds first mentioned.

District Number Six. — Beginning at the line of the town of Gardner on the north side of Hezekiah Corey's farm; thence easterly on District Number Five to Sanderson's corner; thence on Districts Number Five and Number One to the county road leading from Ashburnham to Winchendon at the east side of the French farm, so-called; thence to the northeasterly corner of James Laws' land; thence westerly to the line of the town of Winchendon at the northwesterly corner of William Harris' farm; thence on the town line of said Winchendon and Gardner to the bounds first mentioned.

District Number Seven. — Beginning at the line of the town of Winchendon at the northwest corner of William Harris' farm; thence easterly on District Number Six to the northeast corner of James Laws' land; thence easterly to the southwest corner of Asa Tottingham's land; thence easterly to the southeast corner of William Houghton's land; thence northerly to the northeast corner of said Houghton's land; thence westerly to the southeast corner of Silas Willard's land; thence north on Silas Willard, George Wood, Daniel Jones and Rial Cummings to the line of the State of New Hampshire; thence westerly on said State line to

the northwest corner of Ashburnham; thence southerly on the line of the town of Winchendon to the bounds first mentioned.

District Number Eight. — Beginning at the northwest corner of Captain T. Stearns' farm at the line of New Hampshire; thence westerly on Rial Cummings, Daniel Jones, George Wood and Silas Willard to the southeast corner of Silas Willard's farm; thence on District Number Seven to the southeast corner of William Houghton's land; thence southeasterly to the northwest corner of Lewis Willard's farm; thence to the southeast corner of said Lewis Willard's farm; thence easterly to land of Charles Hastings; thence to the northwest corner of said Hastings' land; thence southeasterly to land of Oliver Marble or Oliver Green; thence easterly to land of Jesse Ellis; thence north to the State line at land of Elnathan Lawrence; thence on said State line to the bounds first mentioned.

District Number Nine. — Beginning at the junction of the Ashby road and the road leading to Emery Fairbanks'; thence westerly on District Number One to the south end of Meeting-house pond; thence northerly on District Number Ten to John Lane's land; thence easterly to Jesse Ellis' land; thence southerly to the north end of Brooks' pond; thence on District Number Two to the east side of Mount Hunger; thence westerly to the northwest corner of Stephen Lane's pasture; thence on District Number Three to the bounds first mentioned.

District Number Ten. — Beginning in the centre of the road five rods north of Joel Foster's; thence westerly to the southwesterly corner of Captain Francis Lane's farm; thence to the northwest corner of Caleb Ward's land; thence easterly and northerly on the pond to the northwest corner of Jacob Ward's farm; thence easterly to the northwest corner of Lewis Willard's farm; from thence to the southeast corner of said Lewis Willard's farm; thence south to the Meeting-house pond; thence south on the west side of said pond to the south end; thence westerly and northerly on District Number One to the bounds first mentioned.

Few changes in the boundaries of these districts are noted until 1850, when, by the division of the first district, the

eleventh was organized. This measure was warmly debated and was carried by a small majority and at best it must be regarded as a measure of doubtful expediency.

Under the provisions of the recent school laws of the State, with which all are presumed to be familiar, several attempts to vacate the district system were defeated by a majority of the town. In the mean time the measure was fully debated and was met with accumulating support. In 1878 the school district system was abolished and the appraisal of the houses and other school property was referred to the selectmen. Since then the employment of the teachers and the prudential affairs of the schools have devolved upon the committee of supervision. For half a century, under the school code of 1827, the districts were organized corporations, assuming and exercising the control of their prudential affairs. Previous to that date the town, in the choice of the prudential and superintending committees and in building school-houses, maintained a control over the schools which was renewed in 1878 when the district system was abolished. In the early history of the schools the town chose two committees instead of one, yet in theory, and so far as the source of authority is concerned, the ancient and the modern systems, separated by fifty years, are practically the same.

Very little information of the first school-houses is found in the records, and in some instances the action of the town appears contradictory. In 1782 it was ordered "that each school quarter build school-houses by themselves if they are willing to have houses and that each quarter assess themselves for that purpose." Within three months from the foregoing vote the town "granted one hundred and twenty pounds to be laid out in building school-houses and voted that each quarter draw their proportion of it," and at the same meeting permission was granted to build a school-house

on the common. In 1786 sixty pounds and in 1793 seventy-five pounds was "granted to finish the school-houses." In 1799 the town appropriated seventy-five dollars "towards building a school-house in Lieut. John Adams' ward in room of the one lately burned." Three years later it was voted to give Joseph Gibbs' school district fifty dollars towards building a school-house. This vote is connected with the reorganization of a ninth district which subsequently became known as the fourth district. At this date the districts were not numbered and were distinguished by the name of some prominent citizen. In 1809, when many of the school-houses were found too small or in need of repair, the town asserted its independence of continued responsibility in the premises in a declaration that "each school district should build its own school-house."

It is apparent from the records and confirmed by tradition that a school-house was built on the northwest part of the common at the close of the Revolution. In 1809 a new house was built on the common north of land of Moses Tottingham and east of the highway leading south from the old meeting-house. It was removed to the village in 1818. The site then selected has been occupied to the present time. At an early date there was a school-house at the foot of the Charles Lawrence hill, but changes in the boundaries of the districts joined the families in that vicinity to the second and the eighth districts. A school-house, which was burned in 1810, stood many years on the ledges, east of the residence of Warren E. Marble and not far from the house of Nathan and Oliver Taylor, and a second building was erected on the same site. This was removed sixty or more years ago and stood several years across the road from its present location. The flowage of the meadow caused the last removal. It has been repaired frequently and is yet a comfortable school-

house. In the third district, after the first house was burned another was built near the residence of Newell Marble which was succeeded by a brick house which proved too heavy for the moist ground on which it stood, and was replaced by the present frame building about forty years ago.

An early house in the fourth district, built above eighty years ago, stood in the mill-yard of Cyrus A. Jefts. The present house was built in 1838. A few years before the close of the past century, a school-house was erected about two hundred yards north of the residence of Benjamin E. Wetherbee. The next house in this vicinity was located about as far west of the residence of Mr. Wetherbee and was burned almost forty years ago. In 1848 a two-story brick house was built on the present site. This house was burned in 1865. The new house, commodious and substantial, was built in 1867. Another ancient school-house was erected on the old road to Winchendon and near the Frederick Crosby place. Many years ago it was removed or a new one built near the Astor House. Later the centre of population was in Burrageville where rooms were rented for the accommodation of the school. In 1882 the present house was built. A portion of Number Seven has formed a part of several geographical districts. Tradition stoutly affirms that in very early times, for the accommodation of a large section of the town, there was a school-house west of the saw-mill of Isaac D. Ward and on an old road leading from and north of the meeting-house in North Ashburnham. The tradition is probably in accordance with the fact and it is also certain that one hundred years ago a house was built on a road long since discontinued, and about eighty yards north of the residence of Nathaniel R. Butler. The house was burned in 1812. Immediately another was built north of the village of North Ashburnham at the junction of the Rindge road

and a road now discontinued. In response to changes made in the boundaries of the district the house was removed to a point on the road leading from the Deacon Jones' place to the present site. The house near the residence of Henry Tuckerman was built in 1850, and is situated two miles from the centre of the original district. The first school-house in the eighth district, built at an early date, was located on the Stearns road, a short distance from the present house. It was burned in 1814 and its successor built the following year. The school-house in the ninth district was so thoroughly constructed at the organization of the district that attentive repairs have continued its preservation. The school-house provided in Lane Village at the organization of the district was continued until 1852 when the present substantial house was erected.

The commencement of the present century was the beginning of a new era in the cause of popular education. The efforts of the past had taken root for a more vigorous growth, and many happy changes occurred within a few years. In most cases, to learn to read, write and spell, with some knowledge of the rules of arithmetic, was all that had been attempted. The text-books in use previous to 1800 were not numerous, and of a most primitive character. Dilworth's and Perry's Spelling-Book, and Pike's Arithmetic would cut a sorry figure in the school-room at the present time. Late in the past century, Webster's Reader found its way into the school-room, as well as a small abridgment of Morse's Geography, which gave the briefest description of the earth's surface, and contained many startling facts. Alexander's Grammar was in the hands of only the most advanced and ambitious pupils. In any mention of the books of the period, the New England Primer must not be omitted. This volume of diminutive size, filled with wholesome truths,

was found at every fireside, and was received in the school-room as a reading-book and safe counsellor. Every Saturday, and sometimes more frequently, the entire school was required to "say the catechism," as found in this little volume. These exercises, and the truths inculcated, are not forgotten by the aged among us, but are shining brightly in their waning years. To them education, in an intellectual sense, was simply the measure of mental force, furnishing facilities to action, while these moral instructions were seized upon to direct and be the guiding principle of their lives.

From an early date the most successful teachers in the public schools have been natives and residents of this town. Within the limits of this chapter it would be impossible to name even those who secured an enduring reputation in the traditions of the town. As early as 1790, Hon. Samuel Appleton, then of New Ipswich, was an instructor one term at least in the first humble school-house on the old common. Captain Caleb Wilder, portly in form, genial in manner, yet firm in discipline, was a successful teacher many years. Master Jesse Stearns, the physical counterpart of Mr. Wilder, upright in bearing and incisive in manner, was employed in several districts. His fame as a teacher is familiar to the traditions of several towns in this vicinity. These worthies were succeeded by Hosea Green, Eleazer Flint of Winchendon, Stephen Wyman of Ashby, Artemas Longley, Ebenezer Frost, Hon. William B. Washburn, Hon. Amasa Norcross and many natives of Ashburnham whose distinguished labor will be noticed in the family registers.

It has been stated that the first appropriation made for schools in 1767 was eight pounds. With the exception of the years 1768, 1769 and 1776, in which no appropriation was made for this purpose, the town raised twelve pounds annually until and including 1777. In 1778, £40; 1779,

£200; 1780, £1000; 1781, £4000 were respectively voted, but on account of the rapid depreciation of the currency during the Revolution, the schools did not receive any substantial benefit over the former years. For several years after the Revolution £50 was annnally raised and then the amount was increased from year to year until in the year 1800, $300 was appropriated, and the gradual increase to the present time is briefly represented in the sums raised through the decades of the present century: 1810, $400; 1820, $500; 1830, $500; 1840, $900; 1850, $1400; 1860, $1700; 1870, $3000; 1880, $2800. From 1872 to 1875, $3500, and from 1880 to 1884, $3000 has been appropriated for the schools of the town.

From the first the amount of school money was determined by the town, but the vote was only the united voice of the districts. The tax was assessed and collected by the officers of the town because they could most readily and accurately proportion the amount each person should pay, but the school money was received and expended by the agents of the districts. Beyond the slender assistance of the towns, the public schools, in their infancy, were not the growth of public support nor the creation of State legislation, but were spontaneous in the several communities to meet the demands of each. Our common school system has clearly originated with the people. The perfection of our code of school laws rests in the fact that it is not creative but that it has rather seized and solidified the most advanced methods and the fullest measure of public sentiment. The law has seldom introduced new forms and unfamiliar methods, but has been content in the encouragement and support of those at once familiar and approved by the people. The schools have continually been in advance of the statutes.

The settlers in the towns in this vicinity divided themselves into communities of convenient proportions, which existed upon the slender authority of the town for sixty years before the law vested these school districts with corporate power. The towns, in behalf of the districts, continued to raise money for the establishment and maintenance of schools a long time before there was any statute compelling an appropriation which had been uniformly and cheerfully made. The town, and later the several districts, built school-houses and subsequently the law gave them permission to continue a laudable practice. The people in the capacity of a town chose "committees to visit and inspect the schools" many years before the statutes made mention of a superintending school committee. True, law has given uniformity and perfection to our school system, but the whole of it has sprung from and has first been tested and approved by the people.

Various methods for the division of the school money among the districts have been employed. A few years each district has received an equal share of the annual appropriation without regard to the tax paid by the district or the number of scholars attending school. This system was succeeded by a division according to the number of scholars and also on the basis of the wealth or the tax paid by each district. After a trial of one and then another of these antagonistic systems for several years, a compromise was adopted which led to an absolute division of the greater part and a discretionary division of the remainder of the school appropriation.

From 1868 to 1875 the town maintained a high school one or more terms each year with a reasonable measure of success. The schools were assembled in the basement of the armory and in the school-houses in the first and eleventh

districts. The teachers were Samuel J. Bullock, Melvin O. Adams, Charles E. Woodward, Fred W. Russell, Francis A. Whitney, Martin H. Fiske, F. T. Beede, Mary A. Sawyer and E. A. Hartwell.

Commencing with the inauguration of Cushing Academy in 1875, the youth of this town have enjoyed the benefit of a permanent high school. For several years the town paid one thousand dollars and at present is paying seven hundred dollars annually to the academy for the maintenance of a high school department without tuition from resident pupils.

The prudential affairs of the districts, including the employment of the teachers, were conducted by the selectmen until 1778. At this date the town proceeded to choose a prudential committee, or agent, for each district and continued to exercise this authority for fifty years. Not until 1828 were there any district organizations. The laws of 1827 introduced many substantial improvements. By it the districts were permitted to assume the control of their local affairs, and towns were required to choose annually a committee of supervision. Previous to this date the choice of a superintending committee was optional with the towns. Commencing at an early date three or more persons, styled "a committee to visit the schools," were chosen nearly every year, but under the operation of the new law the committee of supervision was vested with increased authority and dignity.

The first committee "to view" the schools was chosen in 1793. It included the minister, the selectmen and Joshua Smith, Stephen Randall, John Adams, Jacob Willard and Enos Jones. In the years immediately following, to Joseph Jewett, William Pollard, John Whiteman, Ezra Dana, William Stearns, Elisha White, Dr. Abraham Lowe, Thomas Adams, Timothy Crehore, Isaac Whitmore, Francis

Lane, Joshua Townsend, Amos Wetherbee and Samuel Wilder was committed the supervision of the schools.

During the first decade of the present century there is no record of the election of a superintending committee. Commencing in 1811, with the exception of four years, from three to nine persons have been annually elected; introducing new names each year the roll of the committee is the register of a legion. The names of those who have served two or more years, the date of their first election and the term of service are appended: Rev. John Cushing, 1811 (4); Caleb Wilder, 1811 (7); Jesse Stearns, 1811 (5); Ivers Jewett, 1811 (6); Dr. Abraham Lowe, 1811 (3); Jacob Harris, 1812 (2); George R. Cushing, 1813 (9); Caleb Ward, 1815 (3); Jacob Harris, Jr., 1816 (2); Dr. Abraham T. Lowe, 1818 (2); Jonas Willard, 1818 (2); Charles Stearns, 1820 (3); Rev. George Perkins, 1826 (4); Hosea Green, 1826 (2); Thomas Bennett, 1826 (2); Colonel Enoch Whitmore, 1826 (3); John C. Glazier, 1828 (3); Gilman Jones, 1829 (2); Ebenezer Frost, 1829 (12); Rev. George Goodyear, 1833 (4); George G. Parker, 1833 (2); Rev. John W. Case, 1835 (2); Dr. Nathaniel Pierce, 1835 (3); Dr. William P. Stone, 1838 (3); Jerome W. Foster, 1839 (8); John A. Conn, 1841 (10); Elliot Moore, 1841 (3); William P. Ellis, 1845 (3); Rev. Elnathan Davis, 1847 (3); Dr. Alfred Miller, 1848 (10); Rev. Josiah D. Crosby, 1850 (11); Francis A. Whitney, 1850 (16); Edward S. Flint, 1855 (3); Levi W. Russell, 1856 (2); Hosea F. Lane, 1857 (3); Charles W. Burrage, 1857 (3); Albert H. Andrews, 1858 (4); Dr. L. L. Whitmore, 1860 (4); Henry Tuckerman, 1860 (3); John W. Fay, 1860 (2); Asher Moore, 1860 (4); Ohio Whitney, Jr., 1861 (3); Samuel Howard, 1862 (3); Dr. Theron Temple, 1864 (3); Charles E. Woodward, 1865 (11); Dr. Harvey D.

Jillson, 1867 (3); Rev. Daniel Wight, 1870 (3); Nathan Eaton, 1870 (8); Wilbur F. Whitney, 1870 (10); Rev. Leonard S. Parker, 1872 (5); Marshall Wetherbee, 1873 (3); Charles F. Rockwood, 1876 (6); Prof. James E. Vose, 1878 (3); Fred D. Lane, 1880 (5); Mrs. Mary S. Barrett, 1880 (3).

CHAPTER XIII.

THE CUSHING ACADEMY.

INCIDENTAL FEATURES OF THE ENDOWMENT. — THE WILL OF THOMAS PARKMAN CUSHING. — THE TRUSTEES. — PROGRESS OF EVENTS. — WINCHESTER SQUARE. — THE EDIFICE. — DEDICATION. — THE SCHOOL FUND. — JEWETT HALL. — THE CROSBY SCHOLARSHIP. — LIBRARY AND APPARATUS. — PROFESSOR PIERCE. — PROFESSOR VOSE. — BOARD OF TRUSTEES, PAST AND PRESENT.

THE causes, which led to the endowment of Cushing Academy and its establishment in Ashburnham, are not adventitious. In the mission of the school the ministry of the father is renewed in the munificence of the son. Illiberal and ungenerous would be the thought that by a single act of beneficence on the part of Thomas Parkman Cushing the academy bearing his name was founded. An impulse of princely benevolence without the means to sustain it, or the wisdom to direct its course, is unavailing. The prerequisites to the endowment of Cushing Academy were a life of toil, supported by habits of frugality, and the wisdom displayed, in the conditions of the bequest, was the fruitful thought of a sagacious mind. When the youth left the parental roof engaging at an early age in the activities of life, the seminary was deferred only by the measure of a lifetime, and as often as his thought returned to the place of his nativity and the familiar scenes of his childhood, its location in Ashburnham was assured.

The events of the past, the utility of the present and the possibilities of the future can be most clearly presented in an unpretentious narrative of what has been done and what is contemplated by the trustees who have faithfully and successfully executed the express desire and have created in substantial form the image of the matured thought of Thomas Parkman Cushing. With meteoric splendor, the Cushing Academy did not spring into existence. Like the sturdy oak its growth has been slow and solidified. Its character and features, cemented and hardened by the lapse of years, are strong and enduring. The visible origin of the institution is the will and testament of Mr. Cushing, dated July 30, 1850. In its provisions it is a most happy alliance of wisdom and philanthropy, of liberality and prudence. There is no shadow of an impulse. It is the language and it carries the impress of a conclusion. It is apparent that every clause of this beneficent document was formulated and clear in the mind of its author before it was written. Nor need we invoke the license of imagination to presume that on some of the hills in Ashburnham he was accustomed to behold in the clear lines of reality the completed edifice on which the thought of his mind was so vividly inclined; that he beheld the established seats of learning shedding their beneficent rays of light and knowledge over a wide expanse of country, and that with his mind thus allied to the future, his appeal for the coöperation of others was the prayer of an earnest purpose that these influences should not fade with the lapse of years.

The language of the testator in the eighteenth item of his will is evidence that his plans were fully matured and "that he was earnest upon the subject of education as the saving grace of the republic."

And, whereas, it is my opinion that the stability of our Laws, and the safety of our Government, the right direction of our Republican Institutions, the preservation of virtue, and of good morals: and, in short, the well-being and happiness of society, depend in a great degree upon the general diffusion of practical and useful knowledge among the people, I am particularly desirous of using a portion of the estate with which God has blessed me, for the promotion of so important an object as that of improving the education, and thus of strengthening and enlarging the minds of the rising and of future generations. Hoping that others having similar views and opinions, will hereafter coöperate with me towards effecting the same great and desirable end: my Will, therefore, further is, That two schools or seminaries of learning, shall be established and forever continued in my native town of Ashburnham, in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; entirely distinct, and separated from each other by a distance of at least a quarter of a mile — the one for males of over ten years of age, and the other for females of over ten years of age. And for the foundation and endowment of these schools, I give to the Executors hereinafter named, and to their successors forever, in trust only, as follows.

Following with unfailing precision of statement and having appealed to the coöperative philanthropy of others, the donor enumerates several specific bequests "for improving the education and thus strengthening and enlarging the minds of the rising and of future generations." In regard to the magnitude of the bequest it is sufficient in this connection to state that in round numbers ninety-six thousand dollars was placed to the credit of the Cushing Academy immediately after its organization under the charter of 1865. The founder of our academy did not fail to provide for the future. With implicit confidence in "the judgment and discretion of the trustees" and in "the wisdom and foresight of the Legislature" his advisory wishes are clearly set forth.

And, in order to render the seminaries of learning herein established more efficient and extensively useful by an enlarged foundation, it is my further Will that the Trustees hereinafter named, shall diligently and promptly invest the several sums herein given to them, in trust, as they may be realized, for the foundation of said seminaries in such funds and securities as they in their discretion shall think best, and reinvest the income of the same during the period of ten years after my decease. When that period shall have elapsed, my further Will is, that the Trustees, hereinafter named, shall apply for, and obtain from the Legislature of this Commonwealth, a suitable Act of Incorporation or Charter, under which all the business and affairs of the schools herein founded may be conducted forever. The details of the Act, such as the number of Trustees under it, how they shall be appointed or elected, so as to insure as far as possible in perpetuity, a succession of honest, honorable, judicious and intelligent men; the guards to be adopted to prevent the waste or loss of the property belonging to the institution, etc., etc., I leave to the good judgment and discretion of the Trustees hereinafter named, and to the wisdom and foresight of the Legislature.

The trustees selected by the testator were Rev. Dr. Francis Wayland, a brother of his wife; Hon. Heman Lincoln, who married his sister; William D. Sohier, Esq., for many years his legal adviser; and Hon. Charles G. Loring. Mr. Sohier resigning, the appointment of the remaining gentlemen was approved and the will confirmed by the Probate Court December 26, 1854. The immediate control of the fund was committed by his associates to Mr. Loring. In accordance with the express desire of Mr. Cushing, ten years having elapsed, an act of incorporation was secured in 1865, and the trustees of the will were succeeded by a board of trust created by the charter.

The trustees, thirteen in number, with power to fill vacancies were as follows: Rev. Dr. Francis Wayland of

Providence, R. I.; Hon. Alexander H. Bullock of Worcester; Rev. Josiah D. Crosby; Rev. Asa Rand; Hon. Ohio Whitney, Jr.; Jerome W. Foster, Esq., and George C. Winchester of Ashburnham; Dr. Abraham T. Lowe of Boston; Ebenezer Torrey, Esq., Hon. Alvah Crocker and Hon. Amasa Norcross of Fitchburg; Rev. Abijah P. Marvin and Isaac M. Murdock of Winchendon. At the organization of the board, September 6, 1865, Rev. Dr. Wayland was chosen president, Mr. Torrey treasurer and Rev. Mr. Crosby secretary. Upon the death of Rev. Dr. Wayland, he was succeeded by Governor Bullock July 10, 1867. As none of the original fund could be used for building purposes, the board of trust early decided to build whenever the accumulations would be found sufficient. Under the sagacious management of Mr. Loring and his able successor, Mr. Torrey, the fund accumulated beyond the most sanguine expectations.

In the mean time the trustees clearly perceived that the school could be organized earlier, by several years, if only one edifice was erected. After mature deliberation, and mindful of the provision of the testator that while there was to be only one institution but accommodated in two school buildings, separated from each other by a distance at least of a quarter of a mile, they obtained the unqualified consent of the heirs and of the executors of the will to a modification of the plan of the founder in a single provision. The separate education of the sexes in schools and seminaries was more warmly advocated at the time the bequest was made than in later years. The tendency of public sentiment which probably influenced Mr. Cushing with equal force appealed in another direction to the board of trust.

In 1873 the accumulation of the fund was found sufficient to meet the expense of a suitable school edifice, and while

the location of the building was under consideration, the question was happily solved by the liberality of George C. Winchester who presented the corporation the site of the institution with ample grounds for the accommodation of the school which, in appreciative recognition of the donor, has received the name of "Winchester Square."

The academy and the square having other names would be held in less esteem. The park and the building are a memorial of the first and the second ministers of Ashburnham. The analogy is complete. Rev. Jonathan Winchester laid the foundations of a church and defined a field of labor. Rev. John Cushing builded in fair proportions on a site selected and a structure begun. These venerable names, living in the memories and history of the town, are together perpetuated through the thoughtful tributes of their descendants.

While under the general control of the board of trustees, the construction of the school edifice was referred to George C. Winchester, Ebenezer Torrey and Jerome W. Foster. In 1871 Ohio Whitney, who was the efficient superintendent of construction, was chosen to fill a vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Foster. The entire cost of the building and the furniture was $92,611.75.

The material of the building, one hundred and thirty-two feet in length and fifty-two feet in width, is granite and brick. Above a light and commodious basement of granite are two spacious stories of brick with granite trimmings, surmounted by a Mansard roof which encloses a principal hall extending the length and breadth of the building. There are projecting turrets at the corners and a lofty central tower which contains a heavy bell and an expensive clock. In symmetry of outline, in elegance and thoroughness of construction and in the convenience of all its appoint-

ments, the edifice of the Cushing Academy is equalled by none in this vicinity. Facing the rising sun, and overlooking the village and the spreading valley below, it occupies a commanding site and will long remain a conspicuous figure in the landscape and in the continued annals of the town. The building was mainly completed during the year 1874. It was substantially furnished the following season and dedicated September 7, 1875. Addresses were delivered by Governor Bullock, president, and by Rev. Mr. Crosby, Rev. Mr. Marvin, Hon. Amasa Norcross and Professors Hubbard and Thompson of the board of trust. A liberal course of study had been arranged and the school was opened the following day.

The accumulating Cushing fund, after meeting the cost of construction of the school edifice, was found in November, 1876, to be $120,542.34, and since that date the fund remains unimpaired, the income only being used for the maintenance of the school.

The spacious dwelling, appropriately named Jewett Hall, and now employed in the accommodation of instructors and pupils connected with the school, was presented to the corporation by Charles Hastings, and the Crosby house on Central street was donated by Rev. Josiah D. Crosby to found, in memory of his wife, the Elvira W. Crosby scholarship.

A library of nearly two thousand volumes, including generous donations from Dr. A. T. Lowe of Boston and from several residents of this town, has been collected and will become of inestimable service to the school. The apparatus for scientific illustration and experiment is annually increasing. Prominent in this department is a valuable telescope, presented by J. H. Fairbanks of Fitchburg.

The mission of Cushing Academy is scarce begun. Its brief history, if conspicuous and honorable, fades in the

light and warmth of its hopes and its aspirations. These pages are annals of the past. The face of this youthful, vigorous institution is turned the other way. Situated in a broad field, with a rapidly increasing patronage, and bearing the confidence of the public, it enters upon its second decade with hope and courage.

The first principal of Cushing Academy was Edwin Pierce, A. M., who continued in charge four years, and whose name is honorably associated with the initial history of the institution. The excellent reputation of Professor Pierce as a scholar and an able instructor led the board of trustees to solicit his services and to his care they confided the school with unlimited confidence. In character, in purity of motives and in faithful, earnest endeavors to carry the school through the exacting ordeal of its inauguration, the confidence of the trustees was not misplaced. In the progress of his labors in this institution it gradually became apparent to Professor Pierce and to the board of trustees that they were not in full sympathy in regard to discipline and that there was a failure of coöperation on the part of all the friends of the academy. With the universal confidence and respect of the community, Mr. Pierce retired from labors auspiciously begun in June, 1879. From the first he was recognized as a cultured gentleman and in all his relations with the school and with the people he was frank, sincere and honorable.

Edwin Pierce, son of Dana and Diadema (Paul) Pierce, was born at Barnard, Vermont, June 25, 1826. He pursued a preparatory course of study at Woodstock, Vermont, and at Kimball Union Academy, Meriden, New Hampshire, and was graduated at Dartmouth College 1852. The succeeding four years he was instructor of Latin and Greek at Seneca Collegiate Institute, Ovid, New York. From 1856

to 1863 he was professor of Latin and Greek at Yellow Spring College, Iowa; his connection with that institution was severed by its decline at the outbreak of the Rebellion. During the succeeding eight years he successfully taught a private school in Jersey City, New Jersey, and later he taught the classics in the High School of Cleveland, Ohio, until he became connected with Cushing Academy. He now resides at West Newton, Massachusetts.

Professor Pierce was succeeded by Professor Vose who has been a member of the faculty since the opening of the academy. During the past six years he has continued the efficient principal of the school and his successful administration has been a continued season of prosperity. His service to the school and to the cause of education cannot be estimated until the remaining chapters are added and his labor is completed.

Prof. James E. Vose, son of Edward L. and Aurelia (Wilson) Vose of Antrim, New Hampshire, was born July 18, 1836. His life has been devoted to educational pursuits. He has had charge of several institutions of learning and was principal of Francestown (New Hampshire) Academy two years immediately preceding his removal to this town. He is the author of an English Grammar, and in 1877 he delivered the Centennial Address at Antrim which is published in the History of that town.

Of the persons who constituted the original board of trust only four now remain. The term of service and the date of appointment of the trustees are briefly stated:

Francis Wayland,	1865, died 1867.
Alexander H. Bullock,	1865, resigned 1876.
Josiah D. Crosby,	1865.
Asa Rand,	1865, died 1871.
Ohio Whitney, Jr.,	1865, died 1879.

Jerome W. Foster,	1865, died 1871.
George C. Winchester,	1865, resigned 1882.
Abraham T. Lowe,	1865.
Ebenezer Torrey,	1865.
Alvah Crocker,	1865, died 1874.
Amasa Norcross,	1865.
Abijah P. Marvin,	1865, resigned 1880.
Isaac M. Murdock,	1865, died 1875.
George H. Barrett,	1873.
Leonard S. Parker,	1874.
Eli A. Hubbard,	1874, resigned 1879.
Charles O. Thompson,	1875, resigned 1882.
B. K. Pierce,	1879.
George F. Stevens,	1879.
Francis A. Whitney,	1879.
Orlando Mason,	1880.
Charles Winchester,	1882.
Henry M. Tyler,	1882.
George P. Davis,	1882.
Presidents:	
Rev. Dr. Wayland,	1865–1867.
Gov. Bullock,	1867–1876.
Dr. Lowe,	1876.
Vice-Presidents:	
Gov. Bullock,	1865–1867.
Hon. Amasa Norcross,	1867.
Treasurers:	
E. Torrey, Esq.,	1865–1876.
Hon. Ohio Whitney,	1876–1879.
G. F. Stevens, Esq.,	1879.
Clerks:	
Rev. J. D. Crosby,	1865–1876.
Col. Geo. H. Barrett,	1876.

CHAPTER XIV.

BOUNDARIES.

DONATIONS OF LAND TO OTHER TOWNS. — ORIGINAL AREA. — PROVINCE LINE. — INCORPORATION OF ASHBY. — GARDNER. — AREA SEVERED FROM ASHBURNHAM. — THE FAMILIES. — LAND ANNEXED TO ASHBY. — THE PETITIONERS. — ASHBURNHAM RESISTS. — NEW BOUNDARIES. — THE FAMILIES. — A NEW TOWN PROPOSED. — MEETING-HOUSE BUILT. — RENEWED EFFORT AND OPPOSITION. — JOHN WARD AND WILLIAM BARRELL ANNEXED. — PETITION OF GEORGE WILKER AND OTHERS.

ENCROACHMENT upon the borders of this town has been a favorite pursuit of our neighbors. Four considerable tracts of land have been severed from the original township, and other attempts have been successfully resisted. Our fathers could spare the land such as it was, and no doubt both the donors and the recipients wished it had been better, but the loss of several worthy citizens was a more serious consideration. According to the surveys of the several grants the original township contained twenty-seven thousand one hundred and ninety acres. The early surveys were of liberal proportions. The wilderness from which the grants were severed was large and there was no one to protect the province from excessive measurements. The actual area of this township was very nearly thirty-one thousand acres. The first encroachment upon our domain of fair proportions was by the province of New Hampshire in 1741. By this act eight hundred and seventy-seven acres were severed from Dorchester Canada. The incorporation of Ashby severed

about fifteen hundred acres from the area of this town. The proceedings were so intimately connected with the incorporation of Ashburnham that they were admitted in an earlier chapter of these annals.

The erection of a new town out of parts of Ashburnham, Westminster, Templeton and Winchendon was earnestly debated and the preliminaries arranged as early as 1774. In the intent of the petitioners, in the generous impulse of the remaining portions of the several towns, in the general policy of the General Court to increase the number of the towns in the province, in the spirit of the event, Gardner is a decade older than the number of its years. The Revolution delayed but did not defeat the project. In the dawn of returning peace it was successfully renewed. So far as the action of Ashburnham is concerned, the suggestion of a new town near the close of the Revolution was not presented as a new measure, but as a continuation of the proceedings begun several years earlier. In 1774, or eleven years before Gardner was incorporated, the town "voted that the petitioners from Westminster and other towns be so far answered in their petition as to take the lands, after named, from this town beginning at the northwest corner of Kelton's lot, number 46, second division, and running from thence on a straight line to the southeast corner of William Ames' lot, number 55, in the second division, and the said corner of land is voted off to join with the other towns to be incorporated into a district."

Referring to this vote it was proposed in 1781, "To see if the town would vote off two ranges of lots in addition to what was formerly voted off in the southwest corner." Whereupon the town, May 21, 1781, amended the former vote but added only a small part of the two ranges included in the proposition.

Voted that the southwest corner of this town be set off to join with a part of Westminster and Winchendon into a separate town as far as the following lots viz.: beginning at the northwest corner of lot number 45, second division; from thence by the north line of said lot to the northeast corner of said lot; from thence straight to the northeast corner of lot number 55, second division; thence by the east line of said lot to Westminster town line. Including 2348 acres.

The point of beginning, as defined by this vote, is about eighty rods north of the point established in 1774. The other terminus in Westminster line is the same in both votes. When Gardner was incorporated four years later the land severed from Ashburnham, and consequently the line then established between the two towns, coincided at all points with the line defined in the last vote of this town. In later years the line has been broken at two points, at least, for the accommodation of individuals. The records of Ashburnham in this connection define only one of the boundary lines of the territory severed from this town. If the existing lines between Ashburnham and Winchendon and between Ashburnham and Westminster be extended, the former southerly and the latter southwesterly, they will meet at Gardner Centre, and with the former line will enclose the triangular area that, until 1785, was a part of Ashburnham. Concerning the number of acres included within these lines the doctors disagree. Rev. Dr. Cushing, in his historical discourse, estimates it at four thousand acres. To the record of the vote the town clerk has appended, "including 2348 acres." This amount is too small but it is much nearer exactness than the more liberal conjecture of Mr. Cushing.

Ashburnham, still rich in the extent of its territory, could easily afford the lands donated to the new town, but the loss of several worthy citizens from the municipal community

was a more important consideration. The families residing on the area severed from this town were in themselves and have continued in their descendants a material element of the character and population of Gardner.

Captain Samuel Kelton came from Needham to this town 1778, and settled on land belonging to the heirs of Edward Kelton who was an early proprietor of right number 47, and afterwards of right number 49. The eminent services of Captain Kelton are noticed in another connection. He resided on the northern part of the land set off to Gardner and near the line of Winchendon. In 1785 his family comprised a wife and three or four children. One child died in this town November 30, 1780.

Marvrick Hill, from Medway, and five sons, three of whom had families, resided in this town several years before their farms were annexed to Gardner. Moses Hill, the eldest son, had four children in 1785, and in the family of Jesse Hill, another son of Marvrick, were three or four children. Mr. Cushing has left the record of the baptism of James Marvrick and Thomas Adams, sons of Moses Hill, and Enos and William, sons of Samuel Kelton, baptized at the house of Mr. Hill, at a lecture. In another connection Mr. Cushing refers to "the lecture at Mr. Hill's in the southwest part." In these families there were probably twenty-two persons.

Josiah Wilder removed to this town from Sterling about 1776. His wife and one child died in 1782, and he married, second, February 4, 1784, Joanna Baker. He was a distant relative of other families of same name in this town. Three children were living in 1785.

Jonas Richardson came from Shrewsbury in 1781, and was admitted to the church in Ashburnham October 21 of that year. In 1785 his family consisted of his wife and eight children, the eldest thirteen years of age.

John White was born in Lexington, June 1, 1748, and settled in the east part of the tract annexed to Gardner about six years before the incorporation of that town. There were three children in 1785.

Peter Goodale was born in Shrewsbury, December 12, 1751. He was married in the north parish of Shrewsbury, now West Boylston, March 9, 1775, and their eldest child was born there December 23, 1775. Soon after the last date the family removed to this town. They had four children when Gardner was incorporated.

Scarcely had Ashburnham generously and good-humoredly contributed materially to the creation of Gardner before another draft was made upon its domain and inhabitants. This time, the attack was made upon the opposite corner of the town. In the end it was vigorously opposed. The original line of Ashby extended from an existing town bound on Blood or Prospect hill, nearly due north to the State line. For twenty-five years the northeast corner of Ashburnham was nearly two miles east of the present corner. A number of families in this part of the town for several years had not been in sympathy with a majority of the town in the support of the ministry. And as soon as a new meeting-house was proposed their slumbering discontent was fanned in open revolt. In the spring of 1791, under the leadership of John Abbott, they signified to Ashby a desire to be annexed to that town. Ashby promptly responded in a vote "to receive Isaac Whitney, Josiah Burgess, James Pollard, James Bennett, Joseph Damon, Jeremiah Abbott, John Hall, Daniel Brown, John Abbott, Amos Brooks, John Shattuck and others with their lands together with the non-resident land within the bounds of a plan that they shall exhibit to the town if they can be legally annexed to this town." The following month a meeting was convened in

this town "To hear the petition of Ensign John Abbott and others requesting to be voted off with fourteen hundred acres of land to be annexed to Ashby if the town see fit." The town did not see fit. The petitioners were answered with a cold and unqualified refusal. Undaunted, they renewed their solicitation and caused another meeting to be called in the autumn of the same year. At this stage of the proceedings the town attempted to crush the revolt by pacifying the leader of it and proceeded to "vote off" about five hundred acres including the homestead and other lands of Mr. Abbott. The proposed compromise was a failure. The petitioners refusing to accept the proposition renewed their original demands and secured another town meeting early in the spring of 1792. Again the town refused to grant their petition. It is plain the petitioners were depreciating in the good opinion of the town. The gentleman, whom they styled at the outset as Ensign John Abbott, is now called Mr. John Abbott and soon after he was degraded to plain John Abbott. Another town meeting was called in May, 1792, at which the town "voted to oppose any families or land being taken from this town and annexed to Ashby more than was voted off at a former meeting and that the representative act in behalf of the town in that matter at the General Court, — the vote being unanimous except seven persons and those were petitioners for being set off."

The issues were now sharply defined and the controversy was transferred to the Legislature. Samuel Wilder, Abraham Lowe and Jacob Willard were chosen to remonstrate with the Legislature against this encroachment upon the territory of the town. Jacob Willard, also, was the representative at this time. The earnest effort of the town and its agents in opposition to the measure was met with defeat. The act, severing the land of the petitioners from this town,

was passed November 16, 1792. By the terms of the act the northeast corner of Ashburnham on the State line was established five hundred and four rods west of the former bound and at land of James Spaulding. The dividing line from the new corner extended southerly by the east line of James Spaulding one hundred and forty-five rods, and thence southeasterly eight hundred and seventy rods to the line of Ashby. Henry Hall, Sen., who lived within these limits, did not join in the petition. His farm was divided by this proposed line and by a special clause in the act all his land remained in this town.

If the purpose of the Legislature had been faithfully executed the dividing line between Ashburnham and Ashby would have been located between Ward and Watatic ponds and would have annexed to Ashby a larger area than was subsequently included within the established bounds. When the line was run southeasterly from the State line, local attraction at the base of Watatic mountain caused a variation of the needle, deflecting the course to the east. Giving a liberal construction to the act of the Legislature, the line was run straight to Blood or Prospect hill. The selectmen of Ashburnham and Ashby in a joint report informed their respective towns, "That when we came to the easterly corner of Potatuck hill a mine drawed the needle and ran between Henry Hall Jr.'s house and barn and came to the old line between Ashburnham and Ashby on a hill called Prospect hill and erected a stake and stones." The line here described, which was run according to the needle and not according to law, has been maintained to the present time; the only exception being a slight change to restore to Ashburnham a part of the farm of Lemuel Whitney, formerly of Henry Hall, Jr., which had been divided by the new line. The hidden mine at the base of Watatic

saved the town many acres of land. It is the only mine in Ashburnham that has been successfully operated. At the beginning it was worked for all it was worth and possibly its resources were early exhausted.

The families transferred to Ashby included those of John Abbott, five children; Jeremiah Abbott, two children; Daniel Brown, three children; James Bennett, two children; John Hall, one child; Amos Brooks, eight children; Isaac Whitney, four children; Judah Whitney, one child; the widow of Ephraim Whitney, two children; James Pollard, John Shattuck and Joseph Damon.

The remorseless knife of the General Court, which three times had clipped a considerable tract from the corners of the township, was next brandished over the peaceful hamlets in the southeast part of the town. These depredations on the borders were becoming a most serious matter. The original pentagonal township, with its sharp, projecting corners, would soon be trimmed to a diminutive circle if the process was not stayed. The project of creating a new town out of adjoining portions of Ashburnham, Westminster, Fitchburg and Ashby, now buried beneath the accumulating dust of ninety years, was bold and aggressive. The measure was forwarded with ability, but was crushed beneath the united opposition of the four adjoining towns. A list of the names of the persons engaged in the enterprise, and living within the limits of the proposed township, has been preserved. It bears the names of thirty citizens of Fitchburg, sixteen of Westminster, six of Ashburnham and two of Ashby. Eight, and possibly more, names were added previous to 1791 and one or more of these resided in Ashburnham. The movement originated in 1785.

The petitioners continued their solicitations and the town a persistent opposition until the beginning of the present

century. In the mean time the petitioners adopted a limited organization and built a meeting-house and laid out a common in anticipation of securing from the Legislature the desired act of incorporation. The meeting-house was built by voluntary contributions. The long list of pledges for the material presents a bewildering assortment of sills, beams, posts, girts, rafters, boards, shingles, nails, a little money, and other donations, to forward the undertaking. There was also a special subscription in labor and stimulating material to assist in framing and raising the building, — containing pledges for one hundred and fifty-eight days labor at framing, seventy-five at raising, a few modest sums of money, twenty-four bushels of rye, one hundred and fifty-eight quarts of rum and forty-five gallons of cider. With Landlords Cooper and Upton living hard by in case of a failure of any of the supplies, these doughty church builders, surveying their situation with complacency, entered on their records, "enough has been subscribed to raise and cover the meeting-house except a part of the boards and shingles."

In 1789, with spirit and understanding, as long as the last requisite remained, they raised a frame forty-five feet square. Two years were consumed in fitful efforts in completing the outside. The interior was never fully completed. The building, profanely called the Lord's barn standing in plain view on Cooper hill in Westminster, was a familiar object for many years. At a late day, it has been suggested that the impulse which led to the building of this house was a failure of sympathy with the creed of the surrounding churches. The most reliable information leads to the conclusion that they were adherents to the prevailing creed and could not fairly be considered as an association of dissenters. Their first effort to obtain preaching was a vote extending an invitation to the Orthodox ministers in Ashburnham, Winch-

endon, Westminster, Fitchburg and Lunenburg to preach to them. Many of the leading men in this enterprise were members of the standing order in the several towns in which they lived. Not organizing a church as they anticipated at the outset, their original relations were continued until dissolved by death.

Joshua Billings, Joseph Gibbs and Reuben Rice were members of the church in Ashburnham, and so was John Ward who lived over the line in Westminster. Even under the unyielding discipline of the time, their association with this movement did not provoke the censure of the church. The Lord's barn and its builders were orthodox. Of itself the old meeting-house in Westminster has little connection with the history of this town; but as a part of a more comprehensive project, as the first step towards the incorporation of the proposed town of Belvoir, it caused our fathers great alarm. The erection of an unpretentious building was of little moment, but this persistent attempt to slice a corner from the town greatly irritated the good citizens of Ashburnham. Four town meetings were called at an early date to oppose the movement. Samuel Wilder, Jacob Willard and John Adams were chosen to confer with the other towns and Joseph Jewett, Jacob Willard and John Adams were instructed to oppose the petitioners at the General Court.

The residents of Ashburnham included in this movement were Joseph Gibbs, Joshua Billings, Reuben Rice, Jonathan Winchester, Thomas Gibson and Silas Whitney. The scheme was revived in 1815 when forty-two petitioned for a town to be called Vernon. The following year a new petition bearing ninety-eight names was considered by the General Court and a public hearing was ordered. This time the petitioners suggested the name of Belvoir for the proposed town. Town meetings were promptly called and

Elisha White, George R. Cushing and Joseph Jewett were selected to oppose the Vernon petition. The Belvoir petition was successfully resisted by Elisha White, Thomas Hobart and Abraham Lowe, and thus ended a contest which had been continued over thirty years. From beginning to end the arguments of the petitioners were the same and stated with little change of language. The last petition was as follows:

The petition of the undersigned inhabitants of Fitchburg, Westminster, Ashburnham and Ashby humbly sheweth that whereas your petitioners are situated quite distant from the meeting-houses in the towns to which we respectively belong (especially in Westminster and Fitchburg, some in the former town living at the distance of seven miles from the meeting-house), and the land on which we live formed as if nature itself intended it for connection, and the interests of those living in the remaining parts of the towns, especially in Fitchburg and Westminster, being in many and most respects totally different from ours, it is therefore the prayer of your petitioners that the General Court would be pleased to incorporate us into a distinct and separate town by the name of Belvoir.

But Vernon and Belvoir found little support on Beacon hill. The little town with euphonious titles, so clearly outlined in the hopes and imagination of the petitioners, was destined to slumber in the gloom of defeat. Ashburnham was not only successful but recovered cost with the verdict. About this time the farms of John Ward and William Barrell and a considerable tract of non-resident land was severed from Westminster and annexed to this town.

Only one attempt to secure a change of the boundaries of the town occurred after this date. In 1827 George Wilker and twelve others, residing in the eastern part of the town, petitioned the Legislature to annex to Ashby all the land in

Ashburnham lying east of a straight line extending from the northwest to the southwest corner of Ashby. Henry Adams, Charles Barrett and Hosea Stone were chosen to remonstrate in the name of the town. The following year the petition was renewed and the Legislature sent a committee to view the premises. The town chose Joseph Jewett, Charles Barrett and Stephen Marble to confer with the committee. The measure was defeated, at an adjourned session of the Legislature, 1828.

CHAPTER XV.

ROADS AND RAILROADS.

THE PRIMITIVE ROADS. — THE NORTHFIELD ROAD. — EARLY ROADS IN ASHBURNHAM. — THE GREAT ROAD TO IPSWICH CANADA. — A COUNTY ROAD. — ROAD TO ASHBY LINE. — NEW ROADS. — THE TOWN INDICTED. — OTHER COUNTY ROADS. — SOUTH TURNPIKE. — THE WINCHENDON ROAD AMENDED. — TURNPIKES. — TEAMING. — EXPENDITURE. — ROAD COMMISSIONERS. — RAILROADS.

LIKE the veins in the human system centring at the heart, the primitive roads of every town had a general tendency towards the meeting-house. It was not until the movement of surplus production gave additional employment to the roads that much attention was paid to any outward facilities. The early roads of Ashburnham were for the benefit of the settlers within the town. The only roads which offered any suggestions for the accommodation of the surrounding towns were built under the commands of the court and in opposition to the will of a majority of the inhabitants. These roads from the first were styled County roads, and to keep them in repair a separate tax was assessed and special surveyors were chosen. The family of Jeremiah Foster rode into town in a cart drawn by oxen. The chaise in which rode the wife of Rev. Mr. Cushing on her wedding journey from Westborough to her future home could proceed no farther than Fitchburg and the remainder of the way was performed on horseback. But a general knowledge of these early times will present a good idea of the first roads in this town. So

far as any have been better or poorer than the average road of the time the fact will appear. If the number of roads in the early history of the town excites surprise, it should be remembered that every settler demanded one leading from his clearing to some existing road. With a reasonable estimate of those built within the independent grants previous to 1765, of which there is no record, it appears that no less than forty-five roads were laid out in this town previous to the Revolution. Many of these were only a continuation of an existing road or the substitution of a more feasible route, and in the mean time a considerable number were discontinued.

While Ashburnham remained a part of the vast wilderness of unappropriated land, bounded on the south by Townsend, Lunenburg and Westminster, and on the east and west by the settlements in the valleys of the Merrimack and Connecticut rivers, the road from Lunenburg to Northfield was cut through the forest. The distance was forty-two miles and it was constructed about 1733. John Fitch, in a petition to the General Court, states that in 1739 he settled on the Northfield road seven miles above Lunenburg. Mr. Fitch settled where Paul Gates now resides, in the southern part of Ashby. The petition establishes the location of the road at that point, and the account of the Cambridge and the Bellows or Bluefield grants in Chapter I. affords additional information in regard to its course through this town and the date of its construction. This ancient road entered Ashburnham north of Russell hill and near the point where the new road from Rindge to Fitchburg crosses the Ashby line. It continued through Lexington farm and north of Mount Hunger and northwesterly through the Bluefield grant into the north part of Winchendon. When the proprietors of Dorchester Canada established the boundary lines and came

into possession of the township, they found this road already opened and extending through their grant.

In 1752 a road was proposed from a point now in Ashby "along to the southward of Watatuck hill to the Bluefield road so called." Other mention of the Bluefield road gives no additional information in regard to its location at any point in its course through this town. In its westward course through the northern part of Winchendon it was sometimes called the Earlington road, for the reason that the grant of land adjoining Northfield was frequently called Earlington, or more correctly Arlington, now Winchester, New Hampshire. The road was constructed by the Willards, Bellows and Boyntons of Lunenburg to forward the settlement of that grant. The first road proposed by the proprietors of Ipswich Canada was "from Earlington to the meeting-house lot," meaning from some point in the Earlington or Northfield road to the meeting-house lot. At the next meeting they offered six pounds "to such proprietor as shall cut a horse way from Earlington road to the meeting-house lot." These two votes are parcels of the same project. The magnificent suggestion in the History of Winchendon that the first vote contemplated a road from Northfield to Ipswich Canada is extravagant. In the first vote supply the omission of the word "road" after Earlington, then the two votes are consistent. In any other light the worthies of Winchendon are found building a road from the meeting-house lot to Earlington and supplementing it with a road from the same point to the Earlington road.

The records do not define the location of some of the earliest roads in this town, but a considerable sum of money was expended for this purpose during the infancy of the settlement. The first road, which can be definitely located, was between the saw-mill and "the place where the meeting-

house is to stand as strait as the land will allow of." The first road of considerable length would naturally be some inlet from the lower towns. In 1742 a committee was chosen "to clear what is absolutely necessary in the eastern road already laid out and to see if a better road could be found out to Lunenburg." In 1743 "Edward Hartwell, Esq., and Mr. Andrew Wilder" were paid for marking out a road from the meeting-house to the west line.

In 1753 increased sums of money were paid to committees and laborers on account of the roads, but without reference to their location. The same year appears an article "to see if it would be agreeable to the proprietors to have the great road leading to Ipswich Canada and Royalshire six rods wide, as it is likely to be the principal road to the upper western towns and Albany." However agreeable it might have been to secure a road of such ambitious proportions, the proprietors voted they would not do it, and it is possible Albany never heard of it. The truth is, the proprietors so long delayed the building of any suitable road to the line of Ipswich Canada, that soon after this date the aid of the court was invoked and a county road was built. In the midst of these proceedings, with a buoyancy of spirit that approaches audacity, the proprietors vote to perfect all the roads in the township. .

In 1758, and in succeeding years, with little change in the form of expression, an agent is chosen "to oversee those that shall be employed in working at the road, that they are faithful in their service and have no more allowed them than they deserve." In 1761 it was ordered "that the same committee, that laid out the road from the meeting-house to Mr. Winter's, proceed to lay out said road till it comes to the road by Mr. James Colman's house, excepting where it goeth through Stoger's farm, so called." Stoger's farm is

another name for Lexington grant or the Dutch farms. The proprietors were unable to tax the settlers on this or the other grants and were justly excused from building any roads through them. Andrew Winter lived near the west line of Lexington grant and James Coleman's house was near the Stacy mill in Ashby. In 1761 there was a division of the highway tax; six pounds was expended on the county road, nine pounds in the south part and four and one-half pounds in the north part of the township.

No sooner had the settlement assumed the dignity of a town than the building and maintenance of the roads became familiar subjects of legislation. Within two years fourteen roads were laid out by the selectmen and accepted by the town. Others followed in rapid succession. While many of these original roads now constitute a part of the existing highways they have been so many times extended and amended that their identity is buried beneath the weight of continued record. The first road laid out by the selectmen was from a point now in Ashby to meet a road south of the Reservoir pond:

June 27, 1765. We then Laid out a Road from Fitchburg Line through Bridge Farm and then the marks are on the West and South side of the Road to Stephen Ames'es.

N. B. The above said Road Runs through Lexington Farm, so Caled.

The bounds are generally stated in very indefinite terms, but a majority of them were said to end at the meeting-house or in some road leading to it which assists in locating very many of them.

Laid out a road from Samuel Fellows Juner to the meeting House Running North Through Wetherbees Land and Williams Land and Stones Land and Turning Northerly on Stones Land

and Dickersons Land and Sampsons Land and Oaks Land and Wheelers Land and Common Land till it comes to the publick meeting House, is two Rods wide and marked on the easterly side of said Road.

The general course of the above road recorded in 1765 is stated, but like many others its location at intermediate points cannot now be determined. In some instances, like the following, the care of a road was assumed by the town without the intervention of the selectmen:

The town excepted Mr. Melvins Road, sd Road runs from Nathan Melvin's by Willi^{m} Benjamins and through Creehor's Lot and through Simeon Willards Lot & Oliver Willards Lot, and through Mr. Whitemoor's Lot through Elisha Coolidge's Lot to Bluefield Road sd. Road is two Rod wide and marked on y^{e} Northerly side.

The first county road was not a voluntary enterprise, and probably it was not maintained with any degree of enthusiasm. In 1773 parties residing in adjoining towns secured its indictment. The town "chose Samuel Wilder, Esq., to make answer to the Court of General Sessions of the Peace to be holden at Worcester the last Tuesday of March instant to an Indictment found against the said Town by the grand Inquest for the body of said county, for not mending or keeping in repair the County road or King's Highway from Winchendon Town line to the meeting-house in Ashburnham."

The descriptive portion of the indictment affords some information of the condition of the road. The Court Records declare that it "was founderous, miry and rocky, encumbered with great stones, deep mud, stumps and roots and destitute of necessary bridges whereby the travelling that is necessary in & through the same road is greatly impeded

and his Majesty's Liege Subjects who have occasion and right to pass and repass in and through the same road by themselves and with their horses, teams & carriages cannot conveniently and safely pass in & over the same road but in so doing are in great danger of losing their own lives & the lives of their cattle & of breaking and destroying their Carriages."

Mr. Wilder, clothed with plenary power, went to Worcester to make answer to the court, but when he heard himself addressed in such terms it is impossible to imagine what he had to say. To face a court breathing anathema and making such assault upon himself and his town required great courage and fortitude. Whether fear gave strength and courage to the ambassador or his utter discomforture appeased the temper of the court is uncertain. In any event the case was continued, and then the court, possibly in sorrow for an assault upon innocence, calmly reviewed the field and came to the conclusion that inasmuch as the road, meanwhile, had been repaired the town should be forgiven on the payment of five shillings and costs.

In 1776 the maintenance of a new county road was added to existing burdens. For several years after this date a special surveyor was chosen for the "south county road." It extended from the centre of the town past the schoolhouse in the first district, and thence, nearly by the present road, past the Joseph Harris' place to the Westminster line.

Soon after the Revolution the project of a county road from Winchendon to Westminster, passing through the southwest corner of the town, was revived. With its usual alacrity in such cases, the town instructed the selectmen to oppose the road. The following year the incorporation of Gardner intervened and with other legacies the town transferred all responsibility in the premises to the young town.

But Ashburnham was scarcely relieved from one vexation concerning county roads before others of a more weighty character demanded attention.

In 1790 a county road in amendment of the old thoroughfare from Winchendon Centre was proposed. An agent was sent to Worcester, but his efforts were attended with limited success. Three years later the petition was renewed, and Samuel Wilder, Abraham Lowe and Colonel Francis Lane were selected to continue an active opposition to the project. The town instructed their committee to measure all the county roads in the town and to ask the court if any additional burdens would be reasonable and just. Again, a delay was effected, but the suspension of hostilities was only for a brief season. The petition was renewed in 1798. Samuel Wilder, on whom the town relied for council and service in every emergency, was dead. The town sent David Cushing, Joseph Jewett and Hezekiah Corey to the rescue, but without avail. The road was laid out and a majority of the town was greatly discomforted. Before the fate of this road, of which mention will be made again, was decided another of greater proportions was proposed. The preliminary proceedings were brief. Before the town had fairly set its face against it, a county road was laid to complete a line of travel from Winchendon Centre to Leominster, passing through this town by the town farm and on substantially the same route as the Fifth Turnpike was subsequently built; and, in fact, the county road influenced the location of the turnpike which was finally accepted in room of it. One of the advocates of this county road was Joseph Stone who lived on the farm later owned by the town. In this proceeding Mr. Stone was strongly opposed by a large majority of his townsmen and public sentiment upon this subject is reflected in the records. At first, the road was

styled Captain Stone's road, but as the controversy grew warmer it was called Stone's road, and there is a tradition in this town that the popularity of Mr. Stone faded as rapidly as the fortunes of the road were advanced.

After the road was laid the town selected Abraham Lowe, Joshua Smith and Joseph Jewett to draw up a remonstrance in support of an appeal to the General Court. The proposed construction of the turnpike offered the town some relief, and measures were introduced to influence the location of the turnpike in a manner that would lead the court to discontinue the original road. Ebenezer Munroe, Joseph Jewett and John Gates were chosen to confer with the directors of the turnpike, and upon hearing their report the town, 1802, "Voted to make the road from the foot of the hill below Abraham Foster's, so on to the county road by Oliver Samson's, at town expense on condition that Stone's road, so called, can be discontinued and the town be at no more cost or expense on or about said road. Also the town voted to put in one thousand dollars in the road on condition that it be made a turnpike road to run from Winchendon line by Nathaniel Foster's mill, so on to the foot of Abraham Foster's hill, so out by Oliver Samson's. Also voted to put in five hundred dollars on condition that they go with the road where they think best in the town, Stone's road, so called, to be discontinued and the town be at no further expense on account of Stone's road."

The following year the town made a fourth proposition, offering the corporation $1500 if the turnpike was constructed over the old common. The corporation accepted the smallest sum offered and reserved the right to "go with the road where they think best in the town." The turnpike was built in 1805 and 1806 and the county road was discontinued.

The town next directed attention to an amendment of the first county road which had been ordered by the court. To this date the travel from Winchendon was compelled to make the ascent of Meeting-house hill, and thence abruptly down into the valley as it proceeded to Fitchburg. A more feasible route had been debated for several years, but the town steadily refused to divert any travel from the old common until the authority of the court had been invoked. A section of new road was now built, commencing at a point on the old road, one and one-half miles west of the old common and meeting the road again in front of the present residence of Seth P. Fairbanks. This road was built in 1817 at a cost of $1060. It was clearly a benefit to the public, but the dwellers around the old common, and many others, who shared with them a commendable regard for the centre of their town, its meeting-house, its cemetery, its pound and its aristocracy, were greatly discomforted. When this enterprise was completed it was the most thoroughly constructed section of road in the town. The conditions required it "to be sixteen feet between the ditches, crowned eighteen inches in the centre and all stones to be removed that come within six inches of the surface." Before this road was completed measures were taken to secure the indictment of the road leading from the centre of the town to the guide-board near the house of Caleb Ward who then resided west of Lane Village and near Lower Naukeag lake. At a special town meeting some one proposed to repair the road by subscription and escape an indictment. Thirty days' labor were immediately pledged, and then the town complacently directed that the labor be performed at once, and after that the complaint be defended by the town if prosecuted.

Commencing with the present century there was an era of turnpikes. After the extreme depression in business, which was the natural consequence of the drain of the Revolutionary War, the country made substantial progress in wealth and development. A moderate accumulation of capital began to seek channels of investment and every enterprise which promised a fair return for the capital employed failed not for want of money or the encouragement and support of business men. Stimulated by an increasing travel and traffic to and from the centres of trade, turnpikes built and controlled by corporations were extended into every field of supply. Towns on the lines of these throroughfares were greatly benefited, and great efforts were made to influence their location. Taverns, stores and blacksmith shops were multiplied and many of them were mainly dependent on the patronage of these roads.

An early line of travel from the north and west was from Keene through Jaffrey and New Ipswich and thence to Boston by way of Townsend. It was incorporated in 1799, and built without delay. Another turnpike incorporated 1802, from Keene through Winchendon and Leominster, passed by on the other side. This Levite came nearer and indeed was located through the southwest part of the town, but it was of little local benefit. It is now included in the town roads, and the houses of John M. Pratt, John V. Platts and Stephen Wood are on the line of it. The next turnpike in this vicinity came no nearer. It was incorporated in 1807 and completed 1811. It was an important line of travel from Keene through Rindge, Ashby and Groton. This turnpike entered Ashburnham near the residence of Edwin J. Stearns, and the present road from that point, where there was a toll-gate, to the Ashby line at Watatic pond, marks its course through the corner of the town. While this turn-

pike was patronized considerably by the inhabitants, it was of little benefit to the town. If Ashburnham was not highly favored by this era of turnpikes, the inhabitants generally escaped the losses which ultimately attended the depreciation of stock.

In other towns many men of comparative wealth were financially ruined, and the savings of the poor, which were allured by golden promises from the scanty accumulations of continued toil and many self-denials, were lost in the general ruin which ensued. If these early turnpikes were not successful from a financial standpoint they greatly encouraged the growth and development of the country, and by competition and example they did much to improve the general condition of the other roads.

About the time of the decline of the turnpikes a large amount of money was expended in building and repairing roads. A new line of travel, in which this town had a lively interest, was opened through the valley of Miller's river and from Winchendon through the centre of Ashburnham to Fitchburg and the lower towns. For many years long lines of teams and a great amount of pleasure travel passed through the central village. Very many now living are fond of telling of the heavy wagons, drawn by four, six and eight horses, laden with produce for the market and returning with merchandise for the country stores, or of the four and six horse stages that daily passed each way. The scenes of life and activity that attended their arrival and departure and other features of those days are well remembered. The active landlord answered the demands of many guests, while the busy hostlers in the spacious barns grew weary in attendance upon the overflowing stalls. The hammer of the smith awoke the stillness of night and the fire in the forge scarcely burned out before the beginning of a

new day. A much larger business to-day is done with one tithe of the noise and confusion of the olden time. Then, the newspapers, unaided by the telegraph and other modern facilities, gave little information of passing events. Items of intelligence were noisily communicated by word of mouth while bustling crowds around the taverns and the stores gathered the latest news from the passing traveller. Now, the current price of commodities and the records of the world are gleaned from the papers in the quiet retirement of home. Then, orders for goods and the general intercourse of trade were often verbal messages transmitted through many mouths. The message of to-day, silently committed to the mail, or to the swifter transmittal of the telegraph and the responding shipment of merchandise, left by the passing train, are in happy contrast with the noisy methods of the olden time.

During the construction of the Fitchburg railroad from point to point, the teams and stages in that direction made shorter journeys, but the condition of affairs at this point was not materially changed; but the building of the Vermont and Massachusetts and the Cheshire railroads which soon followed drove the stages and the teams from the road.

The amount expended for the annual repair of the roads during the early history of the town conformed to the increase of population and secured highways that reasonably met the requirements of the times. The appropriation in 1770 was £35; in 1773, £80; in 1790, £120; in 1800 the sum was increased to $900. For many years the town chose one and sometimes two surveyors for the county roads and committed the town roads to the care of from two to ten persons, the number being gradually increased as the roads were extended and more thoroughly repaired. In 1818 the town was divided into twenty-one highway districts. The county

roads and turnpikes, gradually losing their individual character, were included among the several districts. In 1845 the number of highway districts was increased to twenty-five, which, with slight changes, were continued until a recent date. From the first, and until the present system was adopted, a surveyor was annually chosen for each district. In 1832 and 1837 the town voted to raise one-half the usual amount in money, but before the tax was assessed the action was reconsidered and the former system of a labor tax was continued until a comparatively recent period. The amount annually expended for the repair of the highways was gradually increased from $900 to $1500; the last sum was deemed sufficient until 1865, when $1800 was raised, and since that date the amount has ranged from $2500 to $4500. In 1870 the town committed the care of the highways to the selectmen and the following year a board of commissioners was established. The members are elected for three years. On this board Simeon Merritt has served eleven years; Samuel Howard, nine years; Jesse Parker, two years; Stephen Wood, three years; Frederic E. Willard, three years; Charles H. Whitney, one year; Robert W. McIntire, six years; Charles W. Whitney, 2d, five years; Justin W. Bemis, one year. The three last named constitute the present board.

Railroads. — The charter of the Vermont and Massachusetts railroad, now operated by the Fitchburg railroad, is dated March 15, 1844, but the road was graded from Fitchburg to South Ashburnham in the summer and autumn preceding and in anticipation of an act of incorporation. At this point there arose an animated contest over the continued location of the road. For two years it was an even question whether it would be extended through Gardner or through Winchendon. In this controversy the town of Ashburnham

was an indifferent spectator, as in either event it would not materially change its course through this town. The business men early perceived that the route through Gardner, which was finally adopted, would accommodate this town as well as the other, and it would also leave an invitation to the Cheshire railroad, then in contemplation, to build from Winchendon through Ashburnham Centre to Fitchburg. For a season the town was so deeply engrossed with this project that little attention was paid to the controversy over the location of the first railroad that was built within the town. The causes and influences which controlled the location of both of these roads were wholly outside of Ashburnham, and while a considerable portion of the town were disappointed neither of them approached the central village. Both of the roads have been of material benefit to the town.

The Ashburnham Railroad lies wholly within this town and materially contributes to the general prosperity of the place. It is young in years and limited in length, yet it has more history to the linear mile and in certain years of its duration has developed more stratagem than has attended the fortunes of many older and longer roads. The difficulties which surrounded its construction and early management are fortunately settled and only the exterior history of the road demands attention. In May, 1871, a charter was obtained for a line of railroad from the junction of the existing roads to the central village, a distance of about two miles. A committee, consisting of George C. Winchester, Austin Whitney, William P. Ellis, Ohio Whitney and George H. Barrett, was immediately chosen to solicit subscriptions to the capital stock which, at this stage of the proceedings, was limited to one hundred thousand dollars. To aid and encourage the enterprise the town of Ashburnham, on a vote to invest five per cent. of its valuation, purchased shares to the amount of

forty-eight thousand dollars. Eleven thousand five hundred dollars was subscribed by three men residing in Fitchburg and in Boston and the remainder of the stock was taken by residents of this town. At the organization of the corporation which promptly ensued, George C. Winchester, Ohio Whitney, Austin Whitney, Addison A. Walker of Ashburnham, Daniel Nevins, Jr., Hiram A. Blood and Otis T. Ruggles were chosen a board of directors. George C. Winchester was subsequently chosen president and Colonel George H. Barrett clerk and treasurer.

The construction of the road was prosecuted with energy and without any unreasonable delay. About the first of January, 1874, the road was completed and a turn table and engine house were built at the northern terminus, but the depot was not erected until the following year. At the annual meeting in the summer of this year, the following board of directors was chosen: Austin Whitney, Addison A. Walker, Walter R. Adams, Simeon Merritt, Ohio Whitney, Daniel Nevins, Jr., and Thomas H. Clark. William P. Ellis was chosen clerk and treasurer and was continued in office until the corporation was dissolved. He was also station agent and to his care was confided the details of the operation of the road. In 1875 Mr. Nevins declined a reëlection and the board was increased to nine members. The new members elected were George C. Winchester, Franklin Russell and George G. Rockwood. The only change in the board of directors in 1876 was the election of Wilbur F. Whitney, in room of Austin Whitney. From 1874 to 1877 the road was equipped and operated by the stockholders under the immediate management of the board of directors. In the adjustment of claims against the corporation the debt was gradually increased and the earnings did not exceed the current expenses to an extent that afforded

any relief. The corporation issued mortgage bonds for twelve thousand dollars and at that time it was generally presumed that ultimately all the debts would be liquidated by the net earnings of the road. In 1877, and after the road had been in operation three years, George C. Winchester demanded payment of a claim of eleven thousand five hundred dollars for personal service. This demand was unanswered for a season with a spirit of resistance and a consciousness of inability to pay it. A final settlement was subsequently made, and in the summer of 1877, the franchise of the road and the rolling stock were conveyed to Mrs. Winchester and the corporation was dissolved. To this enterprise the town and the inhabitants of Ashburnham have contributed eighty-eight thousand five hundred dollars. The loss was serious to a few. Had the burden been more equally distributed, it is probable that in the general utility and convenience of the Ashburnham railroad, every one will find ample compensation for the loss sustained. Mrs. Winchester continued to own and operate the road in the interest of the public until 1885 when it was sold to the Fitchburg railroad corporation.

CHAPTER XVI.

HOTELS AND STORES.

THE FIRST INN.— SEVERAL EARLY INNHOLDERS. — UNCLE TIM'S.— THE COCKEREL TAVERN. —TWO HOTELS ON MAIN STREET. — CHILDREN OF THE WOODS. — A NEW TAVERN. — THE CENTRAL HOUSE. — THE FRYE TAVERN. — THE TAVERN AT FACTORY VILLAGE.

THE STORES. — THE FIRST STORE. — THE JEWETTS AND THEIR SUCCESSORS.— MADAME CUSHING A MERCHANT. — SEVERAL SMALL STORES.— THE WINCHESTERS.— ADAMS AND GREENWOOD. — ELLIS AND LANE. — NEWTON HAYDEN. — PARKER BROTHERS.— MARBLE AND GILSON.— GEORGE ROCKWOOD. — ELLIOT MOORE. — MIRICK STIMSON. — STORES IN SOUTH ASHBURNHAM.

INNS or taverns were numerous in the olden times, and a fictitious prominence is frequently assigned them. Around these ancient hostelries tradition is wont to linger and prone to crown them with a dignity they did not enjoy and to regard them with a peculiar charity especially reserved for the dead. In fact, a large majority of them were simply farm-houses in which the traveller was entertained. The proprietor was more a farmer than a landlord and the business was only supplementary to his stated avocation. And often in the pursuit of gain the license of the innholder was secured more for the sale of spirituous liquors than for a rational entertainment of man and beast.

The first inn of this town, of which there is any record or tradition, was built upon the old Bluefield road extending from Lunenburg to Northfield. It was situated on the Bellow's grant in the northwest part of this town, and was not

occupied after 1744, when the settlement was abandoned. The Court Records represent that Moses Foster was a licensed innholder in 1751 and through several succeeding years. He lived at first in the northeast part of the town and at an early date removed to a lot adjoining, south of the common. His house after he removed was an inn, but it is uncertain at which place he was residing when first licensed. The next landlord who appeared on the scene was Nathan Dennis who lived at Lane Village and owned the mill. He was here only two years, 1753 and 1754. In 1756 Thomas Wheeler in the northeast part of the town was an innholder and was succeeded by James Coleman who was included within Ashby in 1765. For several years, commencing with 1759, Elisha Coolidge was licensed. He probably resided in the house previously occupied by Nathan Dennis. In 1767 Nathan Melvin who lived near the Amos Pierce place, in the eighth school district, received permission from the court to entertain the solitary traveller who might accidentally pass that way. Captain Deliverance Davis was a licensed innholder in 1767 but he did not continue in the business many years. Among the ancient hostelries in this town none were so popular as "Uncle Tim's." Tradition assigns no other name to the public house kept by Timothy Willard. He was probably the first landlord in this town who ever gave his undivided attention to the business and his house was known "from Canada to Boston." On his tables often were fresh pickerel which an hour before were sporting in the clear waters of Upper Naukeag. At this inn Dr. Lowe was entertained the first years of his residence in this town. The house was on the old road from Ashburnham to Winchendon, on the site of the residence of Mrs. David W. Russell. In 1798 David Russell, Sen., purchased the hotel and farm and continued the business. He

procured a new sign on which was painted a profile of a chanticleer in the constant occupation of crowing over the fame of the place. In a few years, so fickle is fame, the name of "Uncle Tim" was heard no more. The inn was known as the "Cockerel Tavern."

About the close of the century two hotels were opened on Main street, — one by Captain David Cushing, where Nahum Wood now lives, and one on the opposite side of the street, over which Joseph Jewett presided when not engaged in other pursuits. Commencing with about 1815, and continuing with a waning patronage until about thirty years ago, there was a hotel on the north turnpike, and either the hotel or the locality was familiarly known as Children of the Woods. The travel on that once busy thoroughfare has been diverted into other channels and the old hotel has fallen with the weight of years. There was a hotel several years where the brick store now stands. It was built by John Adams, son of the centenarian, about 1826. Hobart F. Kibling and Merrick Whitney were the landlords. In the same building there was a store which is mentioned in another connection. This hotel was built soon after the road from Winchendon to Fitchburg had been thoroughly repaired and many teams from Vermont and the valley of Miller's river passed through this town. The new hotel was successful and its prosperity led to the building of another on the opposite side of the street, now known as the Central House. The hotel last mentioned was built by Captain Silas Whitney in 1829, but it was not finished until 1832. It was called the Washington House and in front, leaving space for the passage of teams, there was a huge sign suspended between two posts. The sign bore a supposed likeness of George Washington who proclaimed that he, at least, was a cold water man by having beneath him a huge watering-

trough which occupied all the space between the posts. In this house, also, Hobart F. Kibling was the first landlord. He was succeeded by Samuel Whitney and his sons who had acquired possession of the property. Later, the house was conducted by Stimson and Howe and by Knight and Forristall who were succeeded by Israel W. Knight, a son of one of the preceding landlords. Mr. Knight conducted the business many years and until his death, September 5, 1858. His son, James M. Knight, succeeded him, remaining in the business two or three years. Ferdinand Petts was the next landlord. The property was purchased by Walter R. Adams, 1866, who assumed the management of the business until 1879 when he was succeeded by John C. Stone. Mr. Stone has thoroughly repaired the buildings and built a block of stores on the site of the driveway. The appearance and convenience of the buildings are much improved and the house is well conducted.

The Frye Tavern, more recently known as the Astor House, was a prosperous hotel fifty years ago. The landlords were James Frye, Merrick Whitney, James Barrett, Orin Morton and Otis Metcalf. It has been owned many years by the Cheshire railroad and occupied by tenants.

About the time the Frye Tavern was opened, Norman Stone had a hotel at Factory Village for several years. Public houses on the main lines of travel were numerous in those days and many at intermediate points between the villages were successful.

Stores. — Until the close of the Revolution there were no stores in Ashburnham. If any one returned from the centres of trade with goods, which were offered for sale, the business was not of sufficient magnitude or duration to secure the appellation of merchant or surround his abode with the dignity of a store. In the mean time the store in Lunen-

burg was frequently visited, and upon an old ledger of Moses Whitney, who had a store in Rindge in 1772, are extended accounts with several residents of this town. It is probable, however, that, for many years, the greater part of the home supplies were procured in the lower towns in exchange for the product of the farm, or for shingles, split and shaved from the stately pines which were abundant at that time.

Joseph Jewett, Esq., removed to this town in 1783, and immediately opened a store in his dwelling-house which stood at the corner of Main and Cushing streets. In a few years he built a store near by which remains to this time and is a part of the building owned and occupied by Charles Hastings. Associated in trade with Mr. Jewett for one year, about 1790, was Samuel Appleton, the generous benefactor of several educational and charitable institutions, and in later years General Ivers Jewett was admitted to a partnership with his father. The Jewetts were men of enterprise, and succeeded in building up a prosperous business which was extended into the surrounding towns. They exchanged goods for every product of the farm, sending annually many tons of pork, butter, cheese, grain and wool to the seaboard. Ashes, too, with them, were an acceptable tender for goods from the store. These they converted into potash and forwarded it to the market. In later years they received yarns from the Slaters of Rhode Island and other manufactures of the time. At that time the power loom was a sleeping dream in the soul of invention. This yarn was distributed among the families who wove it in hand-looms, returning the cloth to the store and receiving their pay in goods. In this and many other ways these enterprising merchants invited trade. They offered every facility for the payment of goods. They entered into close relations

with the people of Ashburnham and many others in the adjoining towns. In accordance with a custom of the times they sold wines and liquors in quantity and by the glass. They supplemented their business with an inn, and mixed and vended grog from the ramparts of the store and the skirmish line of the hotel. They clothed the naked, fed the hungry, relieved the thirsty, and in their more substantial trade provided all against future want. The "Jewett Store" was an institution which suffered no rival and has witnessed no successor.

Joseph Jewett retiring from an active interest in the business it was continued by General Ivers Jewett. For a short time Colonel Hosea Stone was associated with General Jewett, and in 1824 Samuel Woods, who had been a clerk in the store nine years, bought a half interest and the firm became known as Jewett and Woods. Soon after, the new firm bought a store and a cotton-mill in Fitchburg and sold the store in this town to Samuel Barrett. The Fitchburg enterprise was not successful. General Jewett, in this and other speculative transactions, met with less success than had attended his career as a merchant. In 1828 Samuel Woods bought the store of Mr. Barrett and returned to Ashburnham and in company with George H. Lowe he continued in trade until 1831. Samuel S. Stevens succeeded Mr. Lowe, and soon after Jonathan O. Bancroft and Elbridge Stimson were admitted to the firm then known as Woods, Stevens & Co. In 1833 they sold to George H. Lowe who continued in trade until 1842. Mr. Lowe sold to Jacob Osgood of Weston, whose son, Charles, had an interest in the business. The Osgoods were succeeded in 1851 by James Learned who was in business sixteen years when he sold the store and goods to Henry Vanness, who, with unruffled placidity, fostered a waning trade until 1877,

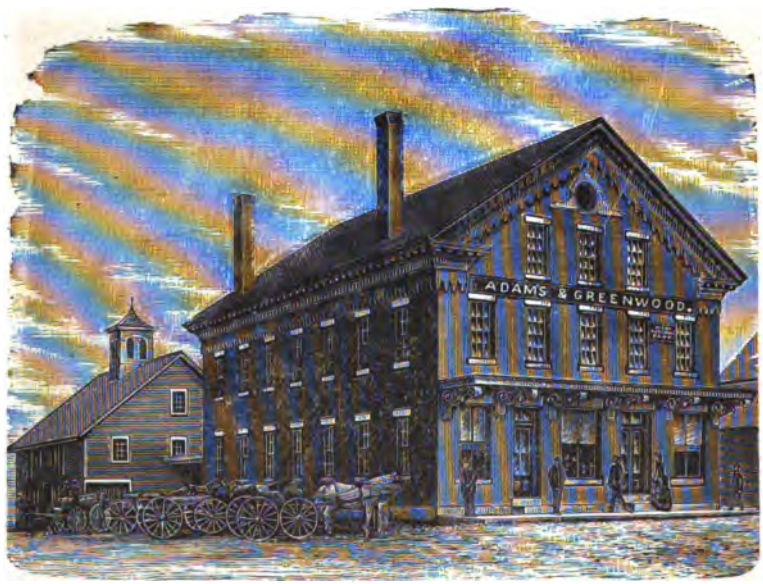
when the curtain fell. The fastened door and the boarded windows shut out the light of day but not the memory of many years.

The second store in order of date, and the first in the elevation and dignity of its surroundings, was on the old common. Here Mrs. Cushing, assisted by her sons, conducted a small trade several years. The modest store was at the east of the common and was established about 1795. A few years later Deacon Heman Lincoln, on this site, erected a dwelling-house and enlarged the store. For a short time he conducted the business and was succeeded by Doddridge Cushing, who continued in trade several years, when the Jewetts purchased the goods and removed them to the foot of the hill. Subsequently, Leonard Stearns, from New Ipswich, was in trade a year or more, and later Charles Hastings purchased the real estate, enlarged and repaired the buildings, bought new goods and continued in trade until 1829. He sold to Lemuel Stimson, and in the spring of 1830 the business was assumed by his sons, Elbridge and Mirick, who closed out in 1833, and since then no one has engaged in trade at this place.

About the time the Jewetts withdrew from an active interest in trade three small stores were opened in this town. William Brooks in the house of his father, Thaddeus Brooks, in the ninth school district conducted a limited business several years; and Reuben Rice, who lived in the fourth school district where Alfred D. Kinsman now resides, had a store in his house an equal length of time. Neither of these securing a monopoly of the trade, Asahel Corey and Salmon Rice opened a store on Water street. Later Mr. Rice sold his interest to Levi Corey. The Coreys were succeeded in 1839 by Charles Winchester, and it was in this store of modest pretension that Mr. Winchester outlined the first

chapter of an active, successful career. Asahel and Levi Corey, having sold their business in Water street, opened a new store in the hotel building on the site of the brick store. After a few years they were succeeded by Philip R. Merriam who removed from a small store on the south turnpike. Mr. Merriam and his son were followed by Horace C. Crehore who continued in trade several years.

In 1842 Charles Winchester sold the store he had outgrown on Water street and bought this store. Six years later he admitted his brother, George C. Winchester, to an equal partnership. They were eminently successful. For the accommodation of an increasing trade, and to provide accounting rooms for their other business they erected, in 1855, the substantial building now occupied by Adams and



THE BRICK STORE, NOW OF ADAMS & GREENWOOD. ERECTED BY C. & G. C. WINCHESTER, 1855.

Greenwood. The firm was dissolved in 1870, and George C. Winchester continued the business until 1879. This

store was reopened in 1881 by Adams and Greenwood, the partners being Walter R. Adams and Moses P. Greenwood. With a full line of miscellaneous goods, they at once secured an extensive trade and are reaping the fruit of merited success.

The store now occupied by Parker Brothers was built by Ivers White in 1855, and leased to William P. Ellis for eight years. Mr. Ellis formed a partnership with Martin B. Lane, and under the name of Ellis and Lane they conducted a trade in stoves, tinware and groceries for several years. The firm was then dissolved by the retirement of Mr. Lane, who removed the stove and tinware department to the store in the Town Hall. Newton Hayden being admitted to a partnership with Mr. Ellis, the business was enlarged and included the wares usually displayed in a country store. In 1866 Mr. Hayden became sole proprietor, and he was succeeded by several firms which included Hon. Ohio Whitney, Walter R. Adams, Moses P. Greenwood and Captain Walter O. Parker. In 1876 Captain Parker and his brother, Frank H. Parker, under the firm name of Parker Brothers, assumed the business. Under their judicious management, the demands of the community have been fully answered and a good trade has been firmly established.

After the removal of Mr. Lane to the Town Hall, he was associated with Joel P. Marble, and in 1876 he was succeeded by Frank B. Gilson. The business was continued under the firm name of Marble and Gilson. In 1880 they built a new store on Central street and added a line of groceries to their former trade. They continue in the management of a prosperous business. There were earlier dealers in stoves and tinware than any named in the preceding paragraphs. Benjamin Merriam was an early dealer in this line of ware in the old store on Water street, and Elliot Moore, for a few

years, was in this line of trade in the George Rockwood store.

George Rockwood opened a store about 1833, where Marshall Wetherbee now resides. He continued in trade several years and a part of the time Dr. William H. Cutler had an interest in the business. He was succeeded by the Union Store, which was continued four years, and later Elliot Moore continued the business a few years.

After Asahel Corey had been in trade on Water street and in the hotel building on the south side of the street, he built in 1846 a store on the site of the residence of George C. Winchester. In this building his son, Jonas Corey, opened a store and was succeeded immediately by George Rockwood and Austin Whitney. Then the firm of Corey, Barrett and Kibling, comprising Jonas Corey, Colonel Francis J. Barrett and Joseph W. Kibling, was actively engaged in trade at this place for a few years. They were succeeded by Austin Whitney, and while his brother, Samuel V. Whitney, was postmaster, the post-office was located here. The building was purchased by George C. Winchester in 1856 and remodelled soon after.

George W. Kibling, who lived in Lane Village, where Merrick Hadley now resides, had a store in his house a few years, commencing about 1835. There was no other store in this village until Mirick Stimson began trade in 1868. Mr. Stimson has continued without interruption to the present time. In North Ashburnham, Asa R. Lovell was in trade about three years, commencing in the autumn of 1845. The goods were owned by several gentlemen who lived in that vicinity, and who sustained the store as a local enterprise. The goods were subsequently sold at auction. Except the trade in groceries conducted by Daniels Ellis, there have been no other stores in this village.

Stores in the village of South Ashburnham have been numerous. In 1822 Jonas Munroe opened a store and continued in trade several years. The building occupied by Mr. Munroe was later the ell of the Deacon Glazier shop. Mr. Benjamin E. Wetherbee, the present owner of the premises, tore it down a year ago and completed its history. Hosea Hosley, in 1836, began trade in a building still known as the red store, opposite the residence of Hezekiah Matthews. After a vacancy of several years, the next trader in this store was Lewis G. Matthews, who, with a line of groceries and patent medicines, began business in 1852, and continued until 1874. Oliver A. Raymond, in the autumn of 1846, began business under favorable auspices in the May store. He died the following year and the goods were sold out by his brother. The Protective Union Store was opened in the May building in 1848. Stores established on this plan were found at this date in almost every village. Generally conducted by men unskilled in the arts of trade, very few of them were successful. This proved no exception, and was closed before the expiration of a year. The May store, which, like the temple of Janus, has been sometimes open and sometimes closed, was occupied a year and a half, commencing August, 1863, by John B. Day, who displayed a line of dry goods and groceries. In 1868 Mr. Day resumed business in the same building. The following year he was succeeded by Stephen V. Ware, who remained two years and again the doors were closed. The next occupant was Luther Osborn, who continued about three years, and from that time until 1876, the store was unoccupied. In the autumn of that year Stephen V. Ware resumed trade with a line of dry goods and groceries. In March, 1884, he sold to John Davis, who moved the following summer into the store under Union Hall where

he was recently succeeded by Alfred E. Garlick and James H. Long, who have built up a prosperous trade.

More to accommodate his employés than to solicit a general trade, Edward S. Flint dealt in staple groceries about nineteen years, commencing 1857. In 1866 Mrs. Mary Blodget fitted a room in her dwelling for the accommodation of a limited stock of ladies' furnishing goods. The business was successfully continued eight years. Near the depots, Sumner H. Upham, Francis Eaton, Sewell S. Lane and Stephen V. Ware have each been in trade a short time.

CHAPTER XVII.

MECHANICAL INDUSTRIES.

PROMINENT POSITION OF ASHBURNHAM. — THREE EARLY MILLS. — A MULTITUDE OF GRAIN-MILLS AND SAW-MILLS. — THE MANUFACTURE OF CHAIRS. — THE GREAT NUMBER ENGAGED. — JOHN EATON. — THE PIONEERS. — PHILIP R. MERRIAM. — CHARLES AND GEORGE C. WINCHESTER. — THE BOSTON CHAIR MANUFACTURING COMPANY. — W. F. WHITNEY. — THE MANUFACTURE OF CHAIRS IN SOUTH ASHBURNHAM. — BURRAGEVILLE. — TUBS AND PAILS. — THREAD SPOOLS. — FRICTION MATCHES. — BASKETS. — MISCELLANEOUS WOOD-WARE. — WOOL CARDING AND CLOTH DRESSING. — COTTON FACTORIES. — TANNING. — MOROCCO BUSINESS. — JOHN AND S. W. PUTNAM.

THE genius of Ashburnham shines forth most conspicuously in a variety of manufactures. In the employment of capital and in the daily toil of a large number of artisans and mechanics, the town maintains a commanding position. The frequent seats of power along the courses of the brooks and rivers have invited the people from the cultivation of a rugged soil to mechanical pursuits. The number of mills, past and present, in this town is unusually large. There are fifty mill sites in this town where at some time the water power has been utilized. These enterprises have offered employment to the mechanic and have augmented the wealth of the town. If the first mills were rude affairs they were necessary to the progress of the settlement, and in their weakness was found a living suggestion of improvement. If brought into comparison with modern mills and modern machinery, the primitive saw-mill, with rheumatic movements laboring

slowly through a log, grunting, meanwhile, as if in pain, presents a vivid picture of the progress and triumph of mechanical skill. No effort is made to name every mill that has been erected in this town. Many of them in the whole extent of an uneven existence have not materially increased the product of the town nor stimulated its energies. Among this class are included several saw-mills upon the smaller streams that, at best, were employed but a small portion of each year and were early suffered to present a picture of dilapidated old age.

The modern industries have been more fortunate and are the life and activity of the town. The first mill in this town was built at Lane Village in 1737. This mill, erected by Hezekiah Gates, during the municipal administration of the proprietors of Dorchester Canada, and in itself a conspicuous figure in the record of the settlement of the town, was mentioned in a previous chapter. In the same connection was given an account of the second mill which was built in 1752 and near the site of the first mill.

The third mill, within the limits of the original township, was also built at an early date. The proprietors located the first and second mills, over which they assumed a nominal control, as near the centre of the town as the conditions would permit. The numerous settlers within and north of the Dutch Farms were far removed from the only mills in the township and caused one to be built in their vicinity previous to 1758. It was owned at that time by Moses Foster, Jr., and Zimri Heywood, and was situated near the outlet of Watatic pond. The site of this mill is now in Ashby and was a part of the substantial contributions of Ashburnham when that town was incorporated. Previous to the Revolution, a saw and grist mill was built at the outlet of Rice pond near the site of the reservoir dam. In the

first division of lots, the eighth lot was one of the ministerial lots and subsequently was under the control of the town. It included the mill privilege and extended southerly. In 1772, for eighteen dollars, the town sold the north part of the lot to Ebenezer Conant, Jr., for a mill site, and for some reason subsequently refunded the money. Mr. Conant, however, built the mill and in 1778 a road was laid from near the village "passing over the mill-dam of Ebenezer Conant, Jr., and between said Conant's house and barn and through lots seven and eight, until it strikes the old road." At the age of forty years, Mr. Conant died August 3, 1783. The mill was afterwards owned by Jonas Randall, Jonathan Brooks and others. About seventy years ago it was removed to Water street.

Philip Oberlock, who assumed the name of Locke, owned a saw-mill at an early date in the south part of the town. It was situated near the shop of Reuben Puffer. In 1778 Mr. Locke sold the mill to Daniel Gibbs who owned it several years. The early proprietors of the mill property, now owned by Elijah Gross and Son, were Simeon Brooks, Caleb Wilder and Jason Mead. In 1816 it was purchased by Peeks Gross. The mill was burned in 1844 and rebuilt the following year. For many years there has been a saw and grain mill at this site. The present proprietors have ground and sold a large quantity of western corn. At times a portion of this mill has been occupied by tenants. Chairs have been made here by Liberty Holt, Charles Buttrick, James Blodget, Ira Brooks and Irving E. Platts. Samuel J. Tenney, William Tenney and Henry Lawrence have manufactured tubs and pails, and John Davis has prepared excelsior at this mill.

Ezra Dana removed to this town about 1790. He did not remain here many years, but he found employment in build-

ing the first mill on the river at Burrageville. The ancient dam and also the evidence of the sudden flood which occurred under his administration still remain. To irrigate a field of corn suffering from a drought, he cut a small channel through the banks enclosing his mill-pond. The treachery of a sandy soil suddenly drained the pond and ruined the corn. No subsequent trace of Dana is found, yet it is more probable that he removed from town than that he was washed away in the sudden current. The second mill in Lane Village, which was built by Caleb Dana and Elisha Coolidge, was removed by Colonel Francis Lane. In 1786 he built a new mill where the upper mill of Packard Brothers now stands. In 1805 he enlarged the building and continued to maintain a saw-mill and a grist-mill until 1822, when he sold the property to John Kibling, and four years later it was purchased by Samuel Foster, who sold it to Enos Emory in 1833. In 1846 Francis Lane, Jr., and his sons became the proprietors, and in 1854 the buildings were renewed. Milton Lane, who had acquired possession, sold it to C. and G. C. Winchester about twenty years ago. Charles F. and Albert D. Packard, the present owners, bought it in 1881.

About forty rods below Packard Brothers' upper mill is an unoccupied mill site. Here Francis Kibling built a mill in 1832. Dr. Stillman Gibson of New Ipswich subsequently owned it until it was removed about thirty years ago. It was occupied as a saw-mill and shingle-mill. On the same stream near Packard Brothers' lower mill is the ancient Gates dam, and near by are found traces of the dam where Francis Lane, Jr., built a saw-mill and turning shop in 1833. In 1846 it was purchased by Enos Emory, and was burned about twenty years ago. The lower mill of Packard Brothers was built by Elias Lane for a turning shop in 1822. It was sold to Eaton and Harris in 1855, who occupied it

about seven years. Passing through several owners it was bought by Packard Brothers in 1874.

If the power of the stream in North Ashburnham was not occupied as early as at Lane Village, forty years ago it was quite thoroughly utilized. There are four mill sites within a short distance and all of them at times have been quite fully employed. The lower one was built and occupied many years by Alvin Ward. It was burned in 1860. The second mill in order of location was owned, and is said to have been built by Moses and Ezra Lawrence. The next owner was Daniels Ellis who held it several years. It was subsequently owned by W. L. G. Ward, and later by Isaac D. Ward. The present owner is Joseph H. Small. The unoccupied mill was built by Deacon John C. and Joseph Davis in the autumn of 1826. It is owned by Isaac D. Ward. The first mill on the fourth privilege was built by Alonzo L. Willard about 1842, and has been occupied in the manufacture of a variety of wares. The successive owners were John Baldwin and Daniels Ellis, Jr. Mr. Ellis removed the original and built the present mill about 1863. He sold it when completed to LaRoy A. Butler. Isaac D. Ward now owns it.

The first mill on the stream flowing from Rindge, in the order of location, was built by Eliphalet Eddy about fifty years ago. About 1845 he was succeeded by Corey, Barrett and Kibling, and later by Jonas Corey. It is now owned and occupied by Robert W. McIntire. Daniels Ellis, Jr., built the next mill on this stream nearly forty years ago. Edwin Hayward has owned it about ten years. The next mill was built by Daniels Ellis, Jr., and was owned several years by Mr. Ellis and Horace W. Houston and later by Mr. Houston. The dam was destroyed by the freshet in the autumn of 1869. Three mills have been erected on the

Whitmore and Jones privilege, and are mentioned in another paragraph. The first mill on the privilege of Leonard Foster was built about the commencement of the present century. It was owned many years by Nathaniel Foster who died in 1826. After a few years it came into the possession of Thomas Bennett, and for many years has been owned by Leonard Foster, who built the present mill about 1850. A large quantity of lumber has been sawed at this mill. Two mills have been burned on this site.

The saw-mill at Burrageville was built and owned many years by George L. Beals and later it was a part of the property of the Burrage Brothers. Later, J. H. and E. L. Hodge owned it several years, and manufactured chairs as well as coarse lumber. For seventeen years it has been owned by C. L. Beals and occupied by George L. Beals, Jr. There have been several saw-mills in the central village, but generally they have been connected with manufacturing establishments and are incidentally mentioned in such connection. A saw-mill was built in 1835, on the site of the chair factory of Wilbur F. Whitney, by Joshua B. Burgess. A few years later Mr. Burgess sold it to Europe H. Fairbanks and Colonel Ivers Phillips, who annually sawed a large quantity of lumber. The subsequent owners were Bailey, Spaulding and Sherwin, who sold it about 1862 to Charles and George C. Winchester. The dam was destroyed by the freshet in 1869 and was not rebuilt until 1882, when Mr. Whitney purchased the premises. On the North Turnpike there have been two saw-mills and one is still standing. They possessed all the requirements for business except water. Failing in this essential requisite they were in operation only a small portion of the time.

Samuel Dunster removed from Mason, New Hampshire, to this town, in 1801, and here found employment for many

years in building, selling and exchanging mills. First, he built a saw-mill and grain-mill at Factory Village, which he sold to Benjamin Gibbs about 1816 and then removed to the central village, where in 1817 he built a grain-mill on the site of the mill of Colonel George H. Barrett and soon after he became interested in other manufacturing enterprises which are mentioned in another connection. Mr. Dunster removed to Factory Village in 1830 and bought the mill of Mr. Gibbs which he continued to own until his death. For many years it was under the care of Elijah and Joel Brooks and at last it was washed away by the freshet. The grain-mill on Mill street has been owned by many individuals and firms. Among them are included Josiah Lane, the Caldwells, Piam Burr, Colonel Charles Barrett, Mirick Stimson, Charles and George C. Winchester, John Hadley, Moses P. and Theodore Greenwood. The present owner, Colonel George H. Barrett, has conducted an extensive business in grinding western corn and in the sale of grain. The present saw-mill and grain-mill at Factory Village was built by Ebenezer Frost in 1855. Mr. Frost sold it in 1866 to Cyrus A. Jefts, Theodore Greenwood and Frank W. Wallace, but the firm was soon succeeded by Mr. Jefts, who is in possession at the present time. The lower mill of Warren E. Marble was built by Jacob Whiteman about 1825. The saw-mill was built by his father, Luke Marble, in 1863. On this stream and at an early date there were two other mills. The first one was built by Henry Hall, a son of the emigrant, immediately after the Revolution. It stood between the two mills of Mr. Marble. After several years, Mr. Hall removed his mill to the outlet of Watatic pond and near his residence. It was not kept in repair many years and no other mill has been erected on the same site. The other mill on the stream falling into Ward pond was built by

Nicholas Whiteman and was subsequently owned by his son Jacob Whiteman. It was burned about 1820. During the past twenty years, Luke Marble and his sons have manufactured a considerable quantity of lumber and chair stock.

CHAIRS. — The monkey for ages has sat upon the ground. In this way he enjoys his rest and consumes his leisure hours in the contemplation of the simplest philosophies. Assuming that the Darwinian theory is correct, there is ample evidence for the conclusion that the progressive development of man and the stages of his civilization and enlightenment have been marked by his use of seats, and by the genius displayed in their design and construction. The chairs of the present, in grace of outline, and in a practical adaptability to the use for which they are designed, are a sure exponent of the progress of the times in the art of mechanism. In this manufacture, both in the number and the value of the annual product, Ashburnham yields the palm to Gardner and surveys the remaining field without a peer. In the early manufacture of chair stock in this town the conditions required only a small room in some part of the dwelling-house, a saw, a frow and a shave, while a foot-lathe introduced the owner to the front rank among the chair makers of that period. The terms of admission to the business were so simple and the outlay of money so small that the number who supplemented their other employment with the manufacture of chairs or chair stock, was only exceeded by the tax list. To make an entire chair was an early ambition of Ashburnham, while to turn a good chair leg was only the simplest inspiration of intuition. Ask the aged man of Ashburnham who were Revolutionary soldiers, and beginning with his father and his uncles he slowly names a few. Ask him who were early Federalists or Orthodox or Methodists and his memory fails. But ask him who were chair makers

when he was young and instantly his eye brightens with the light of returning memories. He becomes loquacious. He counts the names of all he knew, traversing his finger-tips over and over again, and if in the pauses of enumeration the reckless instigator of the proceedings essays to retire, he calls him back and names every son of these chair-making sires.

If not the first to engage in this business, certainly among those who early made the manufacture of chairs an occupation, was John Eaton, a native of Lancaster, who removed to this town in 1805 from Ashby, where he had learned his trade. Here he remained four years when he removed to Royalston. It is said that Enos Jones persuaded Mr. Eaton to locate in Ashburnham, and that he agreed to purchase a stipulated number of chairs. Some of the daughters of Mr. Jones were recently married and others were seriously contemplating a similar event, and in order that he might add a certain number of chairs to the marriage outfit of his daughters, he engaged the services of Mr. Eaton who not only answered the demands of his employer but supplied the wants of other families in the neighborhood. While thus engaged, and possibly to stimulate his business by creating a new demand for his wares, Mr. Eaton married the youngest daughter of his patron. For several years, commencing about 1820, Charles and Deacon John C. Davis, at North Ashburnham, and Charles Munroe at South Ashburnham, were actively engaged in this business. In the course of a few years water power was employed in turning stock and Joshua Burgess, Deacon John C. Glazier, Alvin Ward and, probably, others were engaged in some branches of the business. These pioneers were soon joined by John Conn, Harvey M. Bancroft, Lyman Conant, Thomas E. Glazier, Moses Ross, James Blodget, Joseph Rice, Josiah Eaton,

Jesse Ellis, Sumner May, Hezekiah Matthews, Samuel S. Stevens, and many others. A feature of the business at this time was the sale of turned stock in the lower towns and, in fact, many persons named conducted no other business, and few of them were engaged in the manufacture of finished chairs.

In 1833 Philip R. Merriam began the manufacture of chairs where the extensive factories of the Boston Chair Manufacturing Company now stand. He was also engaged in teaming chairs to Boston and other places and hauling freight of all description. From the little mill and small beginning of Mr. Merriam has been developed an industry which has added fame and wealth to this town. To this date the development of the business had been slow and unproductive of substantial results. Even in sanguine dreams the possibilities of the future had never been suggested. Upon the clumsy methods and tedious processes of the early days the genius which has attended the later years had shed no light. Yet, if slow, the early growth was solid. The foundations were laid in patient toil and upon them the modern structure has been safely reared and supported. At this date, and in a field inviting conquest, Charles and George C. Winchester began an intelligent study of the business. Charles Winchester bought the shop of Philip R. Merriam and, subsequently, joined in the enterprise by the younger brother, an important business was soon established. In the ardor of sanguine temperaments, and the hope and courage of young men, they quickly comprehended a measure, at least, of its future possibilities. At once, rebels against antiquated methods and patrons of every approved innovation, they increased the capacity of their works as rapidly as the profits of the business would permit. With unwearied application they directed their energies to the accomplish-

ment of a defined purpose until the images of their early dreams became material forms. With them in their active days every success was an incentive to renewed conquest. They held every point for which they had contended and fought their way to the foremost rank. To these men the town of Ashburnham is indebted. If the Winchesters have retired from an active participation in the business the fact remains, that it was fostered by them and that it was the force of their genius and energy which ably assisted in assigning to Ashburnham an important position among the manufacturing towns of the Commonwealth. The facts are not at hand nor is it possible to state the details of the growth and magnitude of the business, while under the direction of the Winchesters. They were building and enlarging continually. The record of advancement enlivens the transactions of every year. A few of the dates and a summary of the results are briefly stated.

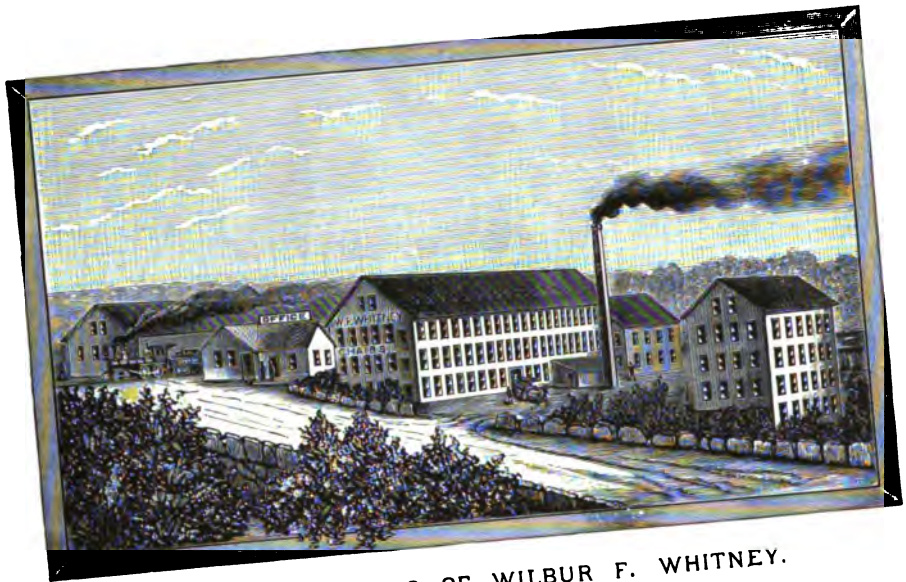
In 1842 the small shop and the business of Mr. Merriam was purchased by Charles Winchester; in 1848 George C. Winchester was admitted to an equal interest in the business. The mills, from time to time, were enlarged to nearly their present capacity and chairs of their manufacture of every style and design were found in every domestic and foreign market. They purchased and erected many tenement houses, and many mills in the surrounding towns were under their control. At the dissolution of the firm in 1870, the number of men employed in the manufacture of chairs was about two hundred and at times this number was considerably exceeded. From 1870 to 1878 the business was continued by George C. Winchester. At the first he assumed the burdens and conducted the enterprise with his accustomed energy, and the volume of the business for several years was fully sustained, but it gradually became apparent that his

brain was overworked and his native forces were failing him. After a few years of partial, and finally of entire, suspension of business, the property was purchased in 1880 by several individuals who organized a stock company.

The value of the plant, exclusive of stock and personal property, is $75,000. The capital stock is $150,000. In the manufacture of chairs the corporation owns and occupies thirty-four buildings, having a total flooring of 300,000 feet or about seven acres. The main factory is of wood, four stories, and ground dimensions of 160 by 48 feet; the saw-mill is brick, two stories, 100 by 50 feet; the main paint shop of wood, four stories, is 160 by 40 feet. The works are driven by an engine of 200-horse power and the river rated at 35-horse power is fully utilized. The accompanying illustration faithfully represents the number and the relative location of the buildings. The number of men now employed is 200, beside 100 inmates of the Hampden County House of Correction and as many women and children in this vicinity who are engaged in filling cane chairs. The present annual product is 360,000 chairs, which yield an income from sales of $200,000. The facilities will accommodate an annual business of $400,000 and arrangements are maturing to employ every resource at command. With one, and possibly two exceptions, this is the most extensive chair manufactory in New England. In addition to the manufacture of the standard lines, and following a series of successful experiments, this company is now making chairs composed in part, and in some patterns wholly, of bent material. With ingenious appliances the wood is shaped into graceful forms and swiftly directed into circles and all manner of curves. These chairs of many patterns, presenting no right lines or angles, are graceful and attractive in outline, and are admitted to be superior in strength and general appearance

factured chairs to the amount of $150,000 annually. In March, 1882, the factory was burned. The loss above insurance was heavy. To build again was an early and for the town a fortunate resolve. Mr. Whitney purchased a site near the depot and immediately erected a factory of three and one-half stories, 136 by 40 feet, and a paint shop 100 by 30 feet. The chairs made in these works are the modern styles of cane-seat chairs. The wood material includes all varieties of native hard wood and black walnut, which is procured in the West. Having built a new mill for its accommodation, 60 by 40 feet, and three stories above the basement, he supplemented his business in 1884 with the manufacture of rattan chairs. In 1886 this factory was enlarged by the addition of fifty feet, and it is now 110 by 40 feet, with a flooring of 17,600 feet. At the present time Mr. Whitney employs 140 men. His manufacture yields an annual product of $175,000. The full capacity of his factories at prevailing prices is about $250,000. The rattan, from which the cane for chairs is taken, is a product of Sumatra and the adjacent islands. The improved machinery employed by Mr. Whitney in splitting and shaving the material was made under the patents and is operated under the immediate supervision of George W. Lombard.

Orange Whitney, who occupies the Burgess mills, gives employment to thirty men and manufactures chairs to the amount of $50,000 annually. Since 1881 he has resided in Winchendon. The first mill on this site in which there was a saw-mill and a grist-mill was built by Joshua B. Burgess in 1844. The building was burned in 1850 and immediately rebuilt. Mr. Burgess was also engaged in the manufacture of chairs. In 1856 he was succeeded by Edward S. Flint, Jonathan H. Piper and James Blodget under the firm of Flint, Piper and Blodget. In 1861 Mr. Flint became



CHAIR FACTORIES OF WILBUR F. WHITNEY.

proprietor of the business which he continued alone and with partners until 1873. Abner White succeeded Mr. Flint and continued the manufacture until 1878. At this time Benjamin E. Wetherbee purchased the property and leased it to Mr. Whitney.

Irving E. Platts has been actively engaged in this manufacture several years. He occupies the Glazier mill and usually employs about fifteen men. There has been a mill upon this site many years. In 1824 Deacon John C. Glazier bought the premises of Charles Munroe and after his death in 1861, the property had several owners and was purchased by Benjamin E. Wetherbee in 1868. The new mill, on the opposite side of the highway, was built in 1872. It is occupied by Mr. Wetherbee in the manufacture of bent chair stock. He gives employment to several men. Another chair shop in South Ashburnham was built in 1856 by Sumner and Charles S. May. They were engaged in the business until recently when the premises were leased to B. Duane & Co., the partners being Bernard Duane and Orange Whitney who manufacture towel racks and cradles.

From about 1837 to 1848 chairs were manufactured on the site of the Naukeag Cotton Factory by several individuals and firms, including James Osgood, Samuel S. Stevens and Alvin Kendall. From thirty to forty years ago, for some reason, nearly every merchant in the central village was also a manufacturer of chairs, and while Corey, Barrett and Kibling were selling staple goods at their store they were making chairs in a mill which stood on the site of the morocco shop.

Burrageville, once the scene of a promising and active enterprise, was founded by chair makers. George S. Burrage, then of Leominster, about 1848, bought of George L. Beals a saw-mill, dwelling-house and a large tract of timber

land. The price paid was thirteen thousand dollars. The saw-mill was burned about that time and rebuilt in its present form and chairs were made in the upper story. The company, including George S., William F. and Charles W. Burrage, was formed, and under the firm name of Burrage Brothers they built in 1853 the paint shop, 40 by 80 feet, which still remains, and the following year a chair factory, 40 by 100 feet, was erected on the stream above the saw-mill. For a number of years the firm was actively engaged in the manufacture of chairs and gave employment to a large number of men. In the mean time they built several tenement houses and were conducting a store in another building which they erected. In the midst of these scenes of activity and promise, in 1858 the chair factory was burned and the enterprise was crippled beyond recovery. William F. Burrage retired from the firm in 1857 and returned to Leominster where he died November 11, 1873. Charles W. Burrage sold his interest to his brother, George S. Burrage, who again became sole owner of the premises in 1859. The younger brother, Charles, completed his studies, which had been interrupted by the allurements of business, and graduated at Yale College 1861, and since that date he has resided in Portland, Oregon. George S. Burrage removed to California where he died May 16, 1876. While residents of this town they were useful and prominent citizens and occupied many positions of trust.

From about 1864 to 1868 a limited business was conducted in the saw-mill by J. H. and E. L. Hodge who came from Templeton. The property was purchased by Charles L. Beals of Winchendon in 1869, and is occupied by George L. Beals, Jr.

Tubs and Pails were made in this town a few years, beginning about 1825, by Joshua Townsend. His shop was

on Mill street. The quantity made at this early date did not materially exceed the demands of a limited market. In 1839 Oliver G. Caldwell and Elbridge Stimson began the manufacture on a more extensive scale, which, under successive firms, has been continued to the present time. In 1848 Mr. Stimson sold his interest to William P. Ellis and the firm of O. G. Caldwell & Co. was continued until 1853 when the mill and machinery were purchased by George Rockwood and Addison A. Walker. Mr. Rockwood sold his interest to his son, George G. Rockwood, in 1866, but the name of the firm was not changed. The firm was dissolved by the retirement of Mr. Walker in 1876, and the mill was burned in 1883. Mr. Rockwood purchased the Winchester mill and has continued the manufacture to the present time. The business has been successfully conducted through these many years and is an important feature of the manufactures of this town.

From about 1843 to 1851 this manufacture was conducted by two or three firms which included William Tenney, Samuel J. Tenney and Henry Lawrence. They occupied a part of the mill of E. Gross and Son and were successful. In 1856 Colonel Enoch Whitmore began the manufacture of tubs and continued the business several years.

THREAD SPOOLS were formerly made in this town, and the manufacture was a prominent industry for many years. About 1830 Colonel Enoch Whitmore and Deacon Gilman Jones, under the firm of Whitmore and Jones, built a mill in the northwest part of the town on the western border of the Bellows grant, and established an extensive business in the manufacture of this ware. Their mill was burned in 1840 and another in 1850. The large mill, now unoccupied, was erected in the autumn of 1850 and the business was continued by Colonel Whitmore until his death. The water

power was supplemented by steam and in the last mill there was an engine of forty-horse power and for several years the full capacity of the mill was employed. This manufacture has been controlled of late by the proprietors of the thread mills and has been conducted near the centres of the trade. Nathaniel L. Eaton and Lysander Harris also manufactured spools in the lower mill, now of Packard Brothers, from 1855 to 1862. In 1859 Leonard Foster purchased new machinery and prosecuted this industry with success several years.

Friction Matches have been made in this town quite extensively. In 1837 William Brooks beganthe manufacture in North Ashburnham in a small shop built for the purpose and from time to time enlarged the business until a new shop was built for its accommodation. In itself the business of Mr. Brooks was successful, but he became involved in litigations concerning infringements of patents which offset the legitimate income of the enterprise. Mr. Brooks was succeeded by Eliakim T. Russell who continued the manufacture until 1865.

Byam, Carlton & Co. of Boston, for a few years, made a part of their matches in this town. They occupied a shop now owned by Daniels Ellis. Francis Kibling and Daniels Ellis were also engaged in the business. Another industry has been the manufacture of match stock or cards prepared for dipping. Those engaged in this business were Alvin Ward, Leonard Foster, Alonzo L. Willard, Eaton and Harris, Milton Lane and others.

Baskets have been made by John M. Pratt in South Ashburnham during the past thirty years. His shop, formerly a Methodist parsonage, was moved from Westminster. He has steam power, a trip-hammer and machinery adapted to the business. Formerly, the baskets

for farm and household use were made entirely of ash. Of late, rattan has been used for filling and new patterns of baskets for a variety of uses have been manufactured.

DOORS, SASH AND BLINDS have been manufactured by Reuben Puffer in South Ashburnham. Like all other mills in this town, some parts of it have been used in the manufacture of chairs. In this mill there has been a number of tenants but none of them have conducted a very extensive business.

Miscellaneous wood-ware, not included in the foregoing paragraphs, has been manufactured in this town by Colonel Whitmore, Warren F. Sawtell, Isaac D. Ward, LeRoy Butler, F. H. Rideout, William P. Ellis, Fletcher Brothers, and in 1884 Samuel N. Noyes began the manufacture of toys on Water street, giving employment to ten or twelve men and producing a variety of miscellaneous wares.

WOOL CARDING AND CLOTH DRESSING.—Thomas Park removed to this town in 1779 and about 1790 he built a small mill on the east side of the river and nearly opposite the present site of the blacksmith shop. In this mill he was the first to engage in fulling and dressing the cloth which had been woven in hand looms. He sold in 1800 to Fitch Crosby who conducted a prosperous business until about 1840. This mill was subsequently owned by Horace Black, who was engaged in the manufacture of furniture. It was finally destroyed by the freshet in 1850. Commencing about 1815 Mr. Crosby and Joshua Townsend began wool carding by power. Their cards were in a shop that stood on the site of the morocco shop.

Samuel Dunster, about 1820, built a shop for wool carding where the tub shop of Rockwood and Walker was burned. In this business he was succeeded by Dr. Nathaniel Pierce. Mr. Dunster built another shop for this business, below his

grist-mill, at Factory Village. This building was washed away by the freshet but the cards had not been run for several years previously. In 1825, or about the time carding machines were introduced on Mill street, Joshua, Moses, and Jeremiah Stowell, from Temple, New Hampshire, built a shop on the North Turnpike and began wool carding and spinning. With the aid of hand looms they manufactured broadcloth of a firm texture and substantial character. In this business they were succeeded about 1830 by Charles Stimson.

Cotton Factories. — Cotton spinning by power and the manufacture supplemented by hand looms was begun in this town as early as 1811 or 1812. Samuel Dunster of this town owning three-fourths and Roger Chandler of Mason, New Hampshire, owning one-fourth, were the first to engage in this business. Their mill was at Factory Village. It was subsequently owned by Samuel Barrett, Jewett and Woods and George Blackburn & Co., who purchased it in 1843. The mill was burned in 1846 and a larger mill was built immediately after. The last mill was burned in 1877. The factory on Water street was built by an incorporated company in 1849. The stock was held by residents of this town who, without previous experience in the business, run the mill a few years and until the debt of the corporation was equal to the value of the plant. The mill was sold in 1856 to George Blackburn and Ohio Whitney, Jr. The amount received from this sale paid the indebtedness of the corporation and thirteen cents on one hundred dollars of the capital stock. It will be observed that the corporation could have run the mill about eight hours longer without an assessment. Mr. Whitney continued his interest in the mill and the business about ten years when he sold to George Blackburn & Co., who have continued to the present time.

TANNERIES.—Following a custom of the time, the hides of domestic animals were tanned on shares or for stipulated compensation and the leather returned to the owner. The operation of tanning hides and dressing leather consumed time and often the leather fell into the hands of an administrator or the heirs of the original owner of the hides. In all the old New England towns there were numerous little tanneries located near a convenient brook where without machinery of any kind the process was slowly conducted. Mention will be made of some of the old locations where this business was formerly conducted, and if, by any chance, one or more of them have not been discovered in this review of the past no immediate prejudice against the industry of a former generation will be encouraged thereby.

Near the close of the Revolution, Willard Lane commenced this business where now is the residence of Walter O. Parker. He sold in 1797 to Deacon William J. Lawrence who enlarged the facilities and for the time conducted an extensive business.

Captain David Cushing divided his time between tanning and other employments. He lived where Nahum Wood now resides. His vats were north of the house and part of them are now covered by the highway. Levi Adams succeeded Mr. Cushing but soon closed out the business.

Stephen Corey had a yard where George F. Corey now resides and was engaged in tanning a number of years early in the present century. In one of the vats his daughter was drowned. The business was later conducted by Stephen Corey, Jr. On his farm on Russell hill James Adams had several vats and conducted the business a number of years. This farm was subsequently owned and occupied by Joseph Adams.

John Caldwell was also a tanner as well as a farmer. He lived on the farm now of Alden B. Marble and was succeeded by his son, Oliver G. Caldwell. The father and son conducted a limited business about thirty years, commencing early in the present century. The Caldwells were the first in this town to employ water power in grinding bark. Formerly it had been ground in a crude mill turned by a horse which described the same circle many times in the labor of the day. The horse was spoiled for other work and literally died in the harness. So slowly did he move even under the lash, and so gradually did his energies waste away, that it required nice discrimination and keen exercise of a sound judgment to determine with accuracy the precise time to transfer the half-tanned hide from the dying animal to one of the vats.

Fletcher and Warren of Stow once had a yard where the pail shop of George G. Rockwood now stands. The yard was formerly conducted by Deacon William J. Lawrence who was owner of the yard at the foot of Lawrence street. The yard was badly injured and the buildings destroyed by the freshet in 1850 and the business was never resumed on this site.

From 1855 to 1866 Elbridge Stimson conducted the business in the old morocco shop which was recently burned. At the time he was the only tanner in the town and no one has succeeded him.

The Morocco Business. — Thomas Russell began the morocco business in this town about sixty years ago. His shop was on Russell hill in the third school district and opposite the farm of Ward Russell. After about five years, he sold the business to Walter Russell, who was succeeded by Frank Russell and Samuel V. Whitney. In 1852 they removed the business to Water street, occupying the old tan-

nery buildings where the factory of George G. Rockwood now stands. About thirty years ago they erected the building familiarly known as the morocco shop. At this time the business was enlarged, becoming an important factor among the industries of the town. In the new shop they were succeeded by Austin Whitney who with several partners continued the business until the shop was burned in 1882.

Ivers and Thomas Adams were successfully engaged in finishing morocco on Russell hill from 1838 to 1860. In 1833 James Adams built a shop on the site of the mill now of Cyrus A. Jefts. In connection with pulling wool and tanning he finished morocco until he removed in 1849 to Pennsylvania. He was succeeded by Luther B. and Andrew J. Adams. The following year the property was destroyed by the freshet and Luther B. Adams, Elbridge Stimson and Austin Whitney built the shop on Brown brook where they conducted the same business a few years.

Among the possibilities of this town should be mentioned the business and residence here of John and Salmon W. Putnam, who removed from Mason, New Hampshire, in 1837 and commenced business as machinists in the old cotton factory at Factory Village. Here they remained three years when they removed to Fitchburg where they established an important industry which still bears their name and continues to contribute to the fame and wealth of that city.

CHAPTER XVIII.

THE ASHBURNHAM LIGHT INFANTRY.

ZEAL IN MILITARY PURSUITS. — EARLY OFFICERS. — THE LIGHT INFANTRY ORGANIZED. — FIRST COMMANDERS. — A FEW VETERANS. — SERVICE IN WAR OF 1812. — THE ROLL. — YEARS OF PROSPERITY. — LIST OF OFFICERS 1791 TO 1847. — PROMOTIONS. — THE MILITIA COMPANY. — MILITIA OFFICERS. — THE DRAFT 1814. — HISTORY FROM 1855 TO 1862. — BRIEF RECORD FROM 1866 TO PRESENT TIME. — LIST OF OFFICERS.

ENTHUSIASM in military affairs for many years succeeding the Revolution was spontaneous. The man of middle age, familiar with the manual of arms and the school of the soldier, was fond of the pomp and display of military pageants. The youth, listening from childhood to the stories of battles and campaigns in which the eloquent narrators had been engaged, were early imbued with a kindred zeal in these pursuits. The old soldier, debarred by the infirmities of age from active participation in the exercises of the field, was ever present with words of encouragement and support. In those days, either in deed or in spirit, all were soldiers. Encouraged by public sentiment and fostered by the laws of the Commonwealth, a military establishment was easily maintained, and in addition to other incentives there was associated with rank and with military titles an acknowledged dignity and honor which firmly appealed to the ambition of men. With such surroundings every military parade was conducted with enthusiasm and was witnessed by a crowd of

applauding people. On these occasions the drum, the fife and the attending juvenile suffered no restraint. The stated trainings and the musters were scenes of bustle and activity in which a Quaker would have been regarded with contempt and supremely pitied in his loneliness.

The town of Ashburnham, eagerly participating in the prevailing sentiment of the times, manifested a lively interest in the local military organizations which for many years were sustained with a steadfast enthusiasm. In addition to all the requirements of the State, an independent military organization has been maintained in this town, almost without interruption, since the Revolution.

In a former chapter it appears that the minute-men of this town were under the command of Captain Jonathan Gates from 1775 to 1781. Upon a reorganization of the militia, the company in this town became known as the seventh company of the Eighth Regiment. July 1, 1781, Francis Lane was commissioned captain, Ebenezer Conant, Jr., first lieutenant, and Daniel Putnam, second lieutenant. Lieutenant Conant died in 1783 and Captain Rand was promoted to major, and to lieutenant-colonel, 1787. In connection with these events, other officers of the Ashburnham company probably were appointed, of which no record has been found. May 2, 1787, Daniel Putnam was commissioned captain, Ebenezer Munroe, lieutenant, and John Abbott, ensign. Lieutenant Munroe and Ensign Abbott were not promoted. These titles became permanently affixed to their names. The next commander of the company probably was Joseph Jewett. No record of his first commission has been discovered, but he was in command of the company in 1789, and about this time John Adams was an ensign and a lieutenant.

Until a later date there was only one company of militia in this town, and, until 1791, it does not appear that the company organization was privileged or distinguished from any other militia company organized under the general laws of the State. But in June, 1791, the General Court granted the petition of the military men of this town, presented by General Timothy Newell, and under the rights and privileges thus secured the Ashburnham Light Infantry was promptly organized. Its legal existence properly dates from the issue of the first commissions to its officers, July 13, 1791. The petition and the proceedings of the General Court were as follows:

To the Honourable, the Senate and the House of Representatives in General Court Assembled:

The petition of Timothy Newell Major General of the seventh division of Militia in said Commonwealth humbly sheweth: —

That a number of persons, in the town of Ashburnham in the 4th Regiment in the 2d Brigade of said Division, did (when under the command of the Hon.ble Maj.r Gen.l Warner) agree to form themselves into a Company of Light Infantry and as doubts have arisen whether said persons can be formed into any other than an independent company and as it is not the wish of said persons to be thus established, your petitioner therefore prays that liberty be granted to raise a Company of Light Infantry within the aforesaid Regiment to be considered as a Company of Regimental Light Infantry under the command of the Colonel or Commanding officer of said Regiment.

The foregoing petition was presented June 18, 1791, and in response the Legislature passed the following resolve:

Resolved, That His Excellency the Governor be and he is hereby empowered and requested to issue orders for forming a Company of Light Infantry in the town of Ashburnham, provided they do not reduce the standing company of militia in said town

to a less number than sixty privates of the train band; the officers of said Light Infantry company to be appointed and commissioned in the same way and manner as is provided by law for the appointing and commissioning other military officers. Said company when so formed to be under the command of the Colonel or commanding officer of the fourth regiment of the second brigade in said division.

Under the privileges extended by this proceeding the Ashburnham Light Infantry was promptly organized. The first officers, commissioned July 13, 1791, were Joseph Jewett, captain, Caleb Kendall, lieutenant, and Charles Hastings, ensign. The following year Captain Jewett was promoted to major, and Charles Hastings was commissioned captain, August 27, 1792, and consequently was the second commander of the company.

Concerning the names or the number of men who belonged to the company during the first twenty years of its legal existence there is no complete record. Beginning with the command of Ivers Jewett in 1813 the Ashburnham Light Infantry entered upon an era of prosperity. A book of enlistments, containing the names of all who were members of the company in 1813, with dates of original enlistment and the names of all who enlisted from that date to 1845, is carefully preserved in the archives of the company. At the close of the year 1813, the number of rank and file, including non-commissioned officers and musicians, was fifty men. The only original member of the company was James Laws, Jr., of Westminster, who enlisted first in the militia in April, 1789, two years before the company was organized under permission of the Legislature. The next in duration of service was Joseph F. Burgess who joined in 1796, and following with a record of seven years or more of service are the names of Joseph Miller, Jonas Holden, John Gates, Jr.,

Jacob Ward, James Adams, Ebenezer Munroe, Jr., Charles Munroe, John Hastings, Ebenezer Adams, Ivers Jewett, Walter R. Adams, Timothy Crehore, Jr., Dickerson Brooks and Jonathan Samson, Jr. Including the existing company in 1813 and the subsequent enlistments to 1845, the record contains three hundred and ninety-eight names.

The obligation to which each recruit subscribed, copied on the first page of the book of enlistment by the hand of Ivers Jewett, is probably a copy of the obligation adopted in 1791. It is here transcribed and will be familiar to many now living:

To facilitate the performance of the duty, which we owe to our country, of adding to our character as citizens some portion of the skill of the soldier, to increase our usefulness as militia men by adding to the zeal which is excited by patriotism, the ardor which is inspired by emulation and to give to each one of us who exerting himself for his own and his State's defence that confidence in the zealous and skilful coöperation of each other which can result only in military discipline; We do hereby, agreeable to a resolve from the General Court of this Commonwealth, passed June the eighteenth, A. D. seventeen hundred and ninety-one for the raising of a Light Infantry company in the town of Ashburnham, voluntarily enlist as members of the Ashburnham Light Infantry company and to govern us in the pursuit of these objects we agree to equip ourselves according to the laws of this Commonwealth, to uniform according to the uniform of said company, which is per according to the clerk's book, and to submit to the rules and regulations of said company. All of which we pledge our honors to perform.

In the war of 1812, the Ashburnham Light Infantry was held in a state of suspense through the summer of 1813 and a part of the following year. The indifference of Massachusetts to the prosecution of the war is a part of the general

history of the times. So far as individual opinion was concerned the general sentiment of the town was in support of the position of Governor Strong. But the spirit of the soldier arose in triumph over the prevailing sentiment of the town. During the progress of the war, the company was frequently disciplined in the exercise of arms and expectantly awaited the summons to march.

During the summer of 1814 the presence of an unusual number of the armed vessels of the enemy caused frequent and grave alarm on the sea-coast. At this time several regiments of State militia were called out and were stationed in Boston and vicinity. The Ashburnham Light Infantry was ordered into the service early in the month of September. There are several now living who remember the hurried preparation and departure from this town. It was on the Sabbath. The company assembled at the Jewett store and after brief words of counsel and fervent prayer for their safe return by Rev. Dr. Cushing, the arms, ammunition and equipage were on a long line of wagons hastily engaged for the occasion. The soldiers were in uniform but in the general features of the day there was only a faint suggestion of a military demonstration. The highway was filled with vehicles of all descriptions which were employed to transport the army on its way. The wagons were unloaded at Lancaster. The men were ordered under arms and they proceeded on their way in a more warlike demonstration. They arrived in due time at Boston and were mustered into the service September 9. The company was stationed at South Boston and Dorchester fifty-one days and was discharged October 30, 1814. Soon after their safe return to their homes, Rev. Dr. Cushing preached a sermon addressed particularly to the soldiers, congratulating them and the public on the prospect of peace. The sermon contains some

wholesome advice. "Let me caution you to take heed that you rejoice without infringing upon the rules of temperance. The pleasure of this day is marred if anything takes place inconsistent with your characters as men and Christians."

The following is the roll of the company at this time. The three last names were enrolled a few days before the company was ordered into service. The remaining names are transcribed from the official roll at the annual inspection in May preceding. Four of the company — James Laws, Jr., Jonas Holden, Joseph Polley and Adam Butler — were residents of Westminster.

Ivers Jewett, *Captain*
Timothy Crehore, *Lieutenant*
Walter R. Adams, *Ensign*

Ebenezer Adams,	*Sergeant*	Stephen Marble
John Gates, Jr.,	"	Joseph Rice
Reuben Townsend, Jr.,	"	Joseph Townsend
Elijah Brooks,	"	Ephraim Taylor
James Adams,	*Fifer*	Jonas Holden
Benjamin Barrett,	"	Humphrey Harris
Oliver Barrett, *Drummer*		Henry Gipson
Amos Stone,	"	Joel Marble
Laban Cushing,	"	George Wilker, Jr.
Jonathan Samson, Jr.		Adam Butler
Josiah White		Thomas Howard
Reuben Rice, Jr.		Charles Stimson
Luther Bigelow		Asahel Corey
Joseph F. Burgess		Caleb Willard
James Billings		Elisha Garfield
Ebenezer Flint		Elias Blodgett
James Laws, Jr.		Enoch Whitmore
Charles Munroe		Charles Barrett
Ebenezer Munroe, Jr.		Asia Phillips
Joseph Miller		Dickerson Brooks

Edward Maynard	John Hastings
Joseph Polley	Reuben Stimson
Jacob Ward	Heman Harris
Stephen Adams	Jabez Marble

For many years succeeding the war of 1812 the independent company was maintained with full ranks. In proficiency of drill and standard of discipline it was among the first companies of the regiment. The officers were frequently promoted to command of the regiment and the citizens of the town evinced a reasonable pride in the organization. In the progress of years the military spirit was suffered to decline, the laws of the State were frequently amended and proffered a diminishing support and encouragement in the maintenance of a military organization. In an hour of despondency the company appealed to the town for assistance, but in this direction they were met with a cold refusal. In 1838 a proposition to make a small appropriation for the benefit of the company and another to loan them a small amount of money, were promptly denied. The sentiment of indifference which pervaded the community as a natural consequence was disseminated among the ranks of the company. From about 1845, the record is gloomy and often overcast with inactivity, but the company maintained a legal existence and occasionally manifested a spasmodic effort at resustication until December 1, 1851, when the remaining officers were officially discharged. From that date until 1855, the company remained beneath the surface. The last captain was Nathaniel F. Cutter who resigned November 14, 1846, and no successor was commissioned. Lieutenant Clarence M. Proctor remained lieutenant commanding until, as stated, December 1, 1851. In the mean time orders for the choice of officers were issued, and in 1847 Colonel

Francis J. Barrett was chosen captain, but he declined to qualify and assume command of the company.

From 1791 to 1851 the following officers of the Ashburnham Light Infantry have been commissioned. The absence of a date in connection with a very few of the names indicates that no official record of the commission has been found, yet no name has been admitted without ample proof of service in the capacity indicated.

CAPTAINS.		LIEUTENANTS.		ENSIGNS.	
Joseph Jewett,	1791	Caleb Kendall,	1791	Charles Hastings,	1791
Charles Hastings,	1792	Willard Lane,	1792	John Scollay,	1792
Willard Lane,	1795	John Scollay,	1795	Phinehas Randall,	1795
John Scollay,	1797	Phinehas Randall,	1797	Silas Willard,	
Phinehas Randall,		Silas Willard,	1798	Grovener Scollay,	1802
Silas Willard,	1799	Grovener Scollay,	1805	Henry Willard,	1805
Caleb Wilder,	1805	Henry Willard,	1807	Moses Lawrence,	1807
Grovener Scollay,		Ivers Jewett,	1811	Samuel Gates,	1810
Henry Willard,		Timothy Crehore, Jr.	1813	Walter R. Adams,	1813
Moses Lawrence,	1810	Ebenezer Adams,	1815	John Gates, Jr.,	1815
Ivers Jewett,	1813	Charles Barrett,	1817	John Willard, Jr.,	1817
Timothy Crehore, Jr.	1815	John Willard, Jr.,	1820	Joseph Rice,	1820
Ebenezer Adams,	1817	Joseph Rice,	1822	Reuben Rice,	1822
Hosea Stone,	1818	Enoch Whitmore,	1824	Samuel Foster,	1826
Charles Barrett,	1820	Reuben Rice,	1826	Gilman Jones,	1827
John Willard, Jr.,	1823	Samuel Foster,	1827	Emery Rice,	1828
Joseph Rice,	1824	Gilman Jones,	1828	Asa Merriam,	1830
Reuben Rice,	1827	Emery Rice,	1830	Lewis G. Houghton,	1831
Samuel Foster,	1828	Asa Merriam,	1831	George Woods,	1832
Emery Rice,	1831	Lewis G. Houghton,	1832	Alvin Kendall,	1834
Asa Merriam,	1832	Asahel Corey,	1833	Henry Kibling, Jr.,	1837
Kilburn Harwood,	1833	John W. Mossman,	1838	Asahel Wheeler,	1838
Alvin Kendall,		Asahel Wheeler,	1841	Francis J. Barrett,	1841
Henry Kibling, Jr.,	1838	Jonas Corey,	1844	Jonas Corey,	1841
John W. Mossman,	1841	Nathaniel F. Cutter,	1845	Nathaniel F. Cutter,	1844
Asahel Wheeler,	1844	Clarence M. Proctor,	1846	Clarence M. Proctor,	1845
Jonas Corey,	1845			Alonzo P. Davis,	1846
Nathaniel F. Cutter,	1846				

During the last five years of this period there were more than two lieutenants. After 1841 there was a third lieutenant and the officers who held this commission were Nathaniel F. Cutter, 1841–44; Clarence M. Proctor, 1844–45; Alonzo P. Davis, 1845–46; Joseph P. Rice, 1846–51. The only fourth lieutenant was Samuel V. Whit-

ney who was in commission from 1846 to 1851. From the officers of the Ashburnham Light Infantry, there were many promotions in the service.

Colonel Joseph Jewett was commissioned major, June 28, 1792, and lieutenant-colonel, April 13, 1795. General Ivers Jewett, major, April 24, 1815; lieutenant-colonel, June 20, 1816; colonel, August 12, 1817; brigadier-general, May 11, 1819; major-general, June 10, 1822; resigned, May 30, 1826. Colonel Timothy Crehore, Jr., major, August 12, 1817; lieutenant-colonel, May 7, 1818; colonel, June 28, 1819. Colonel Hosea Stone, major, March 23, 1820; lieutenant-colonel, March 19, 1822. Colonel Charles Barrett, major, March 19, 1822; lieutenant-colonel, April 15, 1822; colonel, March 2, 1824. Colonel Enoch Whitmore promoted from lieutenant to major, July 1, 1826; lieutenant-colonel, July 23, 1827; colonel, August 31, 1829. Colonel Kilburn Harwood, major, May 13, 1837, and colonel, July 24, 1841. Colonel Francis J. Barrett promoted from ensign and adjutant to major, August 20, 1842; lieutenant-colonel, September 2, 1843; colonel, August 6, 1844; resigned, February 26, 1846.

It will be remembered that in the resolve of the General Court creating the Ashburnham Light Infantry, there was a provision that from the men in this town liable to perform military duty, sixty or more should be reserved for a militia company under the general laws of the State. This service, upon those not legally exempt, was compulsory, yet for many years it was rendered with apparent alacrity. The company of militia was continued and it maintained a visible organization until the annual trainings and musters were abolished. The officers of the militia company from 1792 to 1834 were as follows:

CAPTAINS.		LIEUTENANTS.		ENSIGNS.	
Jonathan Merriam,	1792	Isaac Whitmore,	1792	Henry Whiteman,	1792
Silas Whitney,	1795	Ebenezer T. Adams,	1795	John Adams, Jr.,	1795
Ebenezer T. Adams,	1799	Henry Kiblinger,	1797	John Willard, Jr.,	1797
Henry Kiblinger,	1801	Nathaniel Foster,	1799	Nathaniel Foster,	1798
John Willard,	1802	Caleb Wilder,	1802	Samuel Cotting,	1799
Samuel Cotting,	1803	Silas Whitney,	1803	Ithamer Fairbanks,	1803
George R. Cushing,	1807	Ithamer Fairbanks,	1805	Lemuel Whitney,	1808
Philander J. Willard,	1811	Philander J. Willard,	1809	Elias Lane,	1813
Lemuel Whitney,	1813	Lemuel Whitney,	1811	Timothy Stearns,	1814
Jacob Fairbanks,	1814	Elias Lane,	1814	Francis Lane, Jr.,	1816
Elias Lane,	1816	Timothy Stearns,	1816	Charles Stearns,	1818
Timothy Stearns,	1818	Francis Lane, Jr.,	1818	Jonas Munroe,	1821
Francis Lane, Jr.,	1821	Benjamin Gibbs,	1821	John C. Davis,	1822
Benjamin Gibbs,	1822	Jonas Munroe,	1822	Jehiel Watkins,	1824
Jonas Munroe,	1824	John C. Davis,	1824	Henry Kibling, Jr.,	1826
John C. Davis,	1826	Jehiel Watkins,	1826	John Leathers,	1827
Jehiel Watkins,	1827	Henry Kibling, Jr.,	1827	Charles Davis,	1828
Henry Kibling, Jr.,	1828	Jonas Nutting, Jr.,	1828	Josiah L. Wetherbee,	1830
Jonas Nutting, Jr.,	1830	Charles Davis,	1830		
Asa Merriam,	1832	Josiah L. Wetherbee,	1833		
Josiah L. Wetherbee,	1834				

In 1814 this company, then under the command of Captain Jacob Fairbanks, contained seventy men, including officers. In the summer of this year a draft of two men was made. Tradition asserts that the lot fell on Deacon William J. Lawrence and Thomas Hobart. Both of these men were Federalists and opposed to the prosecution of the war and the administration party greatly rejoiced over the result. In regard to Deacon Lawrence the tradition is correct. He was drafted at this time and furnished a substitute, but the name of Thomas Hobart does not appear on the roll of the company. Jesse Ellis was the other man drafted and Henry Whiteman was his substitute. From this company Colonel Benjamin Gibbs was promoted to major, March 2, 1824, and to lieutenant-colonel, March 2, 1825. Colonel Jehiel Watkins was promoted to major, August 7, 1841; to lieutenant-colonel, September 6, 1841, and to colonel, September 2, 1843. Among the regimental officers several were adjutants. Dr. Abraham Lowe was appointed regimental

surgeon, October 3, 1805; Dr. Abraham T. Lowe, surgeon's mate, March 24, 1821, and Melzer Hudson was appointed quartermaster, July 5, 1797.

The Ashburnham Light Infantry did not long remain beneath the surface. The second epoch of its history extends from 1855 to 1862. If it faded from existence through the tardy processes of disintegration it sprang into life with spontaneous and vigorous animation. The slumbering military spirit was swiftly kindled into flame. The occasion was found in a Fourth of July celebration at Fitchburg in 1855. The reviving sentiment of the town invited Captain Henry Kibling to call together the remaining members of the company and to fill the ranks with new recruits. The men were drilled and participated in the celebration with credit to themselves and to the town. The spirit of former years was fully aroused. The company was reorganized and continued in a flourishing condition until the war of the Rebellion. A conspicuous record of service in the field is continued in another chapter. Under authority of the following general order the old company was revived:

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

HEAD QUARTERS, BOSTON, July 13, 1855.

Special Order No. 30.

WHEREAS, Alonzo P. Davis and fifty-eight others of Ashburnham have petitioned His Excellency the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for liberty to organize a company of Infantry in the town of Ashburnham and vicinity,

The Commander-in-Chief grants the prayer thereof and directs that orders be issued for the choice of officers immediately; the notification thereof be addressed to Alonzo P. Davis of Ashburnham.

The Commander-in-Chief further orders that when said Company is organized it be known as Company G, Ninth Regiment of

Infantry. Upon the application of the Captain when duly qualified, and a certificate from the Selectmen of Ashburnham that they have provided a suitable armory, the arms and equipments will be furnished by the Adjutant-General.

By command of His Excellency,
HENRY J. GARDNER,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief.

EBENEZER W. STONE,
Adjutant-General.

The company promptly organized with Joseph P. Rice, captain, and four lieutenants. This number of officers was continued until 1861. The number of men on the company roll at the close of the year was sixty-five, nearly all of whom enlisted immediately after the order and before the choice of officers.

The petitioners met in the Town Hall July 26, 1855, and completed an organization. At this time the regulations prescribed four lieutenants for the company. The officers chosen at this time were commissioned under same date as follows:

Captain, Joseph P. Rice; First Lieutenant, Addison A. Walker; Second Lieutenant, Jonas Morse; Third Lieutenant, Alonzo P. Davis; Fourth Lieutenant, George H. Barrett. Fifty-five men were included in the original enlistment and eleven were added immediately after the organization. With full ranks and ably commanded, the company attended the division muster at West Brookfield in September. At this date Colonel Edwin Upton of Fitchburg was in command of the regiment. From 1855 to 1861, it was known as Company G of the Tenth Regiment, and until all companies of militia were depleted by individual enlistments in the service, the Ashburnham Light Infantry was in a prosperous condition and was maintained with full

ranks. The whole number of enlistments from the date of reorganization to April, 1861, was one hundred and forty-three. After this date many members of the company entered the service and a large number joined the company, but they were enlisted for service in the army, rather than as members of a local company of militia. During this period there were few changes in the officers. Late in December of the same year Jonas Morse resigned. Lieutenants Davis and Barrett were promoted and Silas Nims was commissioned fourth lieutenant, February 28, 1857. At the promotion of Captain Rice Lieutenant Walker was commissioned captain, August 11, 1860. Lieutenants Davis and Barrett were promoted May 7, 1860. Lieutenant Nims resigned and Samuel A. Taylor was commissioned third lieutenant, and James W. Gardner, fourth lieutenant, June 15, 1860. On the occasion of the resignation of First Lieutenant Walker in March, the company was under command of Lieutenant Davis from June to August, 1860. Colonel Joseph P. Rice was promoted to colonel, June 19, 1860. On his staff Dr. Alfred Miller was surgeon and Marshall Wetherbee was quartermaster.

At the close of the war the independent organization in this town was revived. Many of those who were members before the war desired the establishment of the old company and a greater number who had served in the war eagerly seized a favorable opportunity to continue in this manner the companionship and association of arms. Early in the year 1866, the contemplated movement was earnestly forwarded and in response to a petition numerously signed the decisive order was issued August 11, 1866.

Special Order, No. 99.

Asahel Wheeler and fifty-nine others of Ashburnham, having forwarded to the Adjutant-General a roll of enlistment for the

Volunteer Militia of the Commonwealth, agreeably to the laws of this Commonwealth governing and regulating the militia,

It is ordered that a company be organized of the men thus enlisted and that a captain and one first lieutenant and one second lieutenant be immediately chosen. The order to assemble the men for the election will be directed to Asahel Wheeler of Ashburnham who will furnish the presiding officer with an attested copy of the enlistment roll previous to the meeting.

The chairman of the board of Selectmen of Ashburnham will preside at the election. The company when organized will be designated and known as Company E, First Battalion Infantry, M. V. M.

By order of the Commander-in-Chief.

WILLIAM SCHOULER,
Adjutant-General.

The company was promptly organized and the commissions of the first officers bear date of September 3, 1866. The past twenty years have been an era of prosperity. The organization owns the armory which was purchased 1883, and have camp property valued at about three hundred dollars. The present number of men, including officers, is fifty-eight, and sustained by public sentiment the future of the company is secure.

Soon after the reorganization of the company in 1866, with unqualified unanimity of sentiment and in memory of the gallant Colonel Joseph P. Rice, the organization assumed the name of THE RICE GUARDS. The official designation is Company E. From 1866 to 1869, the company composed a part of the first battalion, first brigade, and first division; from 1869 to 1878, the company was in the Tenth Regiment, third brigade; and since the reorganization of the militia, December 3, 1878, the company has formed a part of the Sixth Regiment of infantry in the first brigade. The officers

of Company E, and the date of commission, from 1866 to the present time, are given as follows:

CAPTAINS.		FIRST LIEUTENANTS.		SECOND LIEUTENANTS.	
Asahel Wheeler,	1866	George E. Davis,	1866	Harrison C. Cheney,	1866
George E. Davis,	1868	Samuel C. Lesure,	1867	Samuel C. Lesure,	1867
William H. Lindley,	1871	George E. Davis,	1868	James M. Garnet,	1867
Walter O. Parker,	1872	William H. Lindley,	1868	George E. Davis,	1868
Josiah W. Bride,	1879	Walter O. Parker,	1871	Leander W. Libby,	1868
Walter H. Laws,	1882	Eugene A. Puffer,	1872	Harrison C. Cheney,	1869
Charles H. Pratt,	1885	C. Edgar Willard,	1874	Michael FitzGibbon,	1870
		Josiah W. Bride,	1875	John H. Stoddard,	1872
		Walter H. Laws,	1880	C. Edgar Willard,	1874
		Charles H. Pratt,	1882	Daniel F. Ryan,	1874
		Alvah S. Fullford,	1885	Lucius R. Hodgman,	1876
				Charles H. Pratt,	1880
				Alvah S. Fullford,	1882
				Charles H. White,	1885

Major Josiah W. Bride was commissioned major, February 7, 1882; resigned March 25, 1884.

CHAPTER XIX.

WAR OF THE REBELLION.

PREPARED FOR WAR. — MISSION OF THE ASHBURNHAM LIGHT INFANTRY. — EARLY ENLISTMENTS. — SECOND REGIMENT. — THE HOME COMPANY. — THE UNIFORM. — LIBERALITY OF GEORGE C. WINCHESTER. — STATE AID. — TWENTY-FIRST REGIMENT. — ITS RECORD. — NAMES OF MEN IN THIS SERVICE. — COLONEL JOSEPH P. RICE. — CAPTAIN WALKER AND THE SLAVERY PROBLEM. — OTHER ENLISTMENTS IN 1861. — RECORD OF 1862. — FIFTY-THIRD REGIMENT. — RESOLUTIONS. — RECORD OF 1863. — THE DRAFT. — ENLISTMENTS. — THE SECOND DRAFT. — CONCLUSION.

MASSACHUSETTS, for many years preceding the War of the Rebellion, had occupied an advanced position among the Northern States in the maintenance of an organized and disciplined militia. At the first call for men to suppress the Rebellion, no State responded with less delay. The regiments from this State were not only early in the field, but they entered the service in a better state of discipline than was a majority of the army hastily gathered at Washington. In these measures of military preparation the town of Ashburnham maintained a foremost rank, and during the early progress of the war the influence and the mission of the Ashburnham Light Infantry was clearly revealed. The military spirit fostered by the organization, joined by a stronger force in the patriotic impulse of the people, was represented by over eighty men from this town in the army during the first eight months of the war. To present the names of the volunteers from this town, with the date of

enlistment, the regiment and duration of service and a record of casualties and disability, will be the province of this chapter. A faithful account of the service of each soldier would fill a volume.

In the spring of 1861, the Ashburnham Light Infantry, under the command of Captain Addison A. Walker, was in a good state of discipline and promptly tendered service to the governor as an organization. The disciplined companies were held in reserve by the State authorities to be distributed among the regiments that were soon to be recruited. For this reason the company from this town was not called into the service until the Twenty-first Regiment was organized. This delay, complimentary in itself to the company, was the prolific source of embarrassment, and several men impatient of delay enlisted in other organizations.

Joseph H. Whitney, George P. Nutting and Martin V. B. Grimes enlisted May 22, 1861, in Company A, Fourth Regiment, and were discharged at expiration of term of service in July of the same year.

The Second Regiment was mustered, for three years, May 25, 1861, and by reënlistment was continued in the service until July 14, 1865. In this regiment, which rendered gallant service in Virginia, participating in the historic battles of that State, and later formed a part of General Sherman's army in the grand march to the sea, Ashburnham was represented by six men: Charles H. Heald was promoted to second lieutenant, July 3, 1865; Sergeant Allen A. Nutting was killed June 9, 1863, at Beverly Ford, Virginia; Harvey A. Cheney was discharged September 13, 1861; Benjamin F. Fay was killed at Cedar Mountain, Virginia, August 9, 1862; Charles W. Kendall was transferred August 6, 1863, to the Veteran Reserve Corps, and Augustus McIntosh was discharged with the regiment after four years of service in July, 1865.

In the Fifteenth Regiment there were two original enlistments from this town. They were mustered July 12, 1861. Their record is as follows: John K. Walker was killed at Ball's Bluff, Virginia, October 21, 1861, and Robert J. Elliot was transferred to the regular army, September 24, 1862.

In the Sixteenth Regiment was Patrick McCoolif who enlisted July 2, 1861, and completed three years of service.

In the Twentieth Regiment was Francis Sacket who was discharged on account of disability, a month after his enlistment.

John Finan enlisted in First Regiment of Cavalry in September, and was discharged on account of wounds in February, 1863.

During the early months of the war, and while the soldiers already named were enlisting into the service, the thought of the people and the action of the town related more particularly to the home company which was momentarily expecting a summons to march. In a town meeting held at this time it was voted to raise the sum of eight hundred dollars to procure a uniform for the company, and a short time after an additional sum of six hundred dollars was appropriated for this purpose. The material was purchased, a tailor was employed and a hundred women of Ashburnham promptly volunteered to assist in making the military suits. This action of the town, prompted by a generous impulse, was of little benefit to the company. When the men were called into service they were required to uniform in accordance with the regulations of the army.

The generosity of the town was unappeased with this act for the comfort and appearance of the soldier. The enthusiastic liberality of George C. Winchester furnished each member of the company with a knife of offensive and

defensive proportions and several of them are still preserved among the treasured relics of the war. There was considerable talk of procuring a revolver for each man of the company, and indeed, suggested by emphatic votes passed at an informal meeting of the citizens, a large number was purchased before it became apparent that a military company could not enter the field of active service in the capacity of a movable arsenal. One revolver was finally presented to each officer and the remainder was sold. In this proceeding the town in its corporate capacity took no part except to express an emphatic dissent; but with greater wisdom and a more attentive regard for the future necessities of all concerned, the selectmen were instructed to provide for the needy families of the men in the service. During the continued progress of the war, this proposal was faithfully executed and large sums of money from the treasury of the town and of the State were expended in the relief of the families of the soldiers.

The Twenty-first Regiment was recruited in July and August, 1861. Company G of this regiment, composed largely of men from this town, entered Camp Lincoln in Worcester, July 19, and with the regiment left for the seat of war August 23. The record of this gallant regiment is a prominent feature of the reports of the Adjutant-General and its history has been published in an interesting and authentic narrative by Captain Charles F. Walcott. The regiment was assigned to the Burnside expedition to North Carolina and there participated in the battles of Roanoke, Newbern and Camden. In the summer and autumn of 1862 they participated in the campaign in Virginia and there inscribed on their colors the sanguinary lines of Manassas, Chantilly, South Mountain, Antietam and Fredericksburg. The casualties in these engagements will be noted with the

several individual records. In the spring of 1863 the regiment rendered efficient service in Tennessee and in this campaign the battles of Blue Springs and Campbell's Station and the siege of Knoxville were inscribed on their banners.

About the time General Grant assumed command of the armies of the United States, the regiment joined the army of Virginia and shared the arduous service and honors of that decisive campaign. In August, 1864, at the expiration of the term of service, those who had not reënlisted were honorably discharged and the veterans who had engaged to serve during the war were transferred to the Thirty-sixth and subsequently to the Fifty-sixth Regiment. They remained with the army in Virginia and shared the glory of the capitulation of the rebel army.

The following list contains the names of the men from Ashburnham who served in the Twenty-first Regiment. Nearly all of them were members of the Ashburnham Light Infantry, were mustered into the service in July, 1861, and were members of Company G.

Captain Addison A. Walker, the senior captain of the regiment, was the commander of the Light Infantry at the beginning of the war. To the governor he promptly tendered the service of a disciplined and efficient company. In January, 1862, the regiment sailed for North Carolina. Captain Walker, on account of sickness, was left at Annapolis. Subsequently he was detailed on recruiting service for several months. He then joined the regiment at Newbern, North Carolina, but being detailed on special service he could not be assigned to the command of his company. At this time General Burnside tendered him a position on his staff, but impatient at the restraints and embarrassments of the situation he resigned May 13, 1862. From the first he enjoyed the respect of his men and the confidence of his superior officers.

First Lieutenant Alonzo P. Davis was a veteran in the Light Infantry, of which he had been an officer several years. He resigned in January, 1862.

Second Lieutenant Samuel A. Taylor was promoted first lieutenant, January 24, 1862; captain, May 28, 1862; resigned, January 13, 1863. He was subsequently a second lieutenant in the Fourth Heavy Artillery.

Sergeant Asahel Wheeler was promoted second lieutenant, January 24, 1862; first lieutenant, May 28, 1862; captain, January 14, 1863; resigned, April 25, 1863. He was subsequently a captain in the Sixty-first Regiment.

Sergeant Charles H. Parker promoted first lieutenant, May 28, 1862; resigned, March 2, 1863. Wounded severely while in command of the company at the battle of Antietam, September 17, 1862.

Corporal George E. Davis was an adjutant and sergeant-major; promoted first lieutenant, April 26, 1863; he reënlisted and was honorably discharged, August 30, 1864, at the reduction of the regiment.

Sergeant Joseph H. Whitney promoted to sergeant-major, July 21, 1862, and second lieutenant, October 30, 1862; resigned, February 23, 1863.

Sergeant Samuel C. Lesure reënlisted, and in a reorganization of the regiment was discharged as a supernumerary, September 24, 1864.

Sergeant M. Thomas Russell was discharged on account of disability, May 8, 1862.

Corporal Lorenzo H. Gilbert promoted first sergeant, January 2, 1864; reënlisted and was honorably discharged, September 24, 1864. He was wounded in the service.

Corporal Harrison C. Cheney promoted sergeant and acting sergeant-major and discharged at expiration of term of service, August 30, 1864.

Corporal Charles G. Lawrence reënlisted; was wounded at Spottsylvania, May 12, 1864.

Corporal Charles Henry Puffer reënlisted; was promoted to sergeant and killed at Spottsylvania, May 12, 1864.

Corporal Henry H. Martindale reënlisted.

George F. Puffer promoted corporal and sergeant; reënlisted and was honorably discharged, September 24, 1864.

Jonas W. Dwinnell promoted to corporal and discharged on account of wounds, January 22, 1863. He was wounded and suffered the loss of an arm at the battle of Fredericksburg.

Erastus McIntosh promoted corporal; reënlisted.

Alfred Piper promoted corporal; discharged on account of disability, October 16, 1862.

Frank J. Litch, wagoner, discharged at expiration of term of service, August 30, 1864.

Peter Archambeau discharged on account of disability, May 25, 1863.

Joseph B. Brown discharged on account of wounds, May 7, 1863.

Merrill Farwell discharged on account of disability, August 4, 1862.

James M. Garnet was transferred to Company H, October 20, 1861; promoted to sergeant; reënlisted and honorably discharged, September 24, 1864.

George G. Hadley was wounded at Camden, North Carolina, and discharged on account of wounds, December 4, 1862.

James P. Hare was wounded at Chantilly; discharged on account of wounds, January 16, 1863.

George W. Lawrence reënlisted.

Washburn Lewis discharged on account of disability, March 18, 1864.

James McIntire died at Newbern, North Carolina, April 21, 1862.

Ezra M. Merritt discharged on account of disability, August 9, 1862.

George E. Page killed at Fredericksburg, December 13, 1862.

Calvin Pindar reënlisted.

William Pratt wounded at Antietam and discharged on account of wounds, November 25, 1862.

Eugene A. Puffer wounded at Antietam; discharged on account of wounds, March 27, 1863.

Robert N. Shaw discharged on account of disability, November 29, 1862.

Ransom G. Stowell discharged on account of disability, May 8, 1862. He subsequently served in the Fifty-third Regiment.

George M. Wetherbee discharged at expiration of term of service, August 30, 1864.

James E. Whipple reënlisted.

Charles H. White, musician, reënlisted.

Frank B. Whitmore discharged at expiration of term of service, August 30, 1864.

Merrick Whitney, Jr., discharged on account of disability, January 26, 1863.

George W. Wilson discharged on account of disability, September 20, 1862.

Waldo Dwinnell enlisted January 5, 1864, and was assigned to this company; he was taken prisoner at the battle of the Wilderness, May 6, 1864, and died in Andersonville Prison in September.

Frank G. Kibling enlisted January 4, 1864, and died in hospital at Camp Nelson, Kentucky, February 22, 1864.

Sylvester F. Oliver enlisted January 5, 1864, and was

transferred to Thirty-sixth Regiment. He died January 29, 1865.

Henry E. Thomas enlisted December 31, 1863, and was killed in battle of Cold Harbor, June 2, 1864.

Hosea Wallace enlisted July 23, 1862, and was discharged with the regiment, August 30, 1864.

Lemuel Whitney enlisted in Company A of the same regiment, August 14, 1862, and was discharged with the regiment, August 30, 1864.

James H. Willard was an original member of company H, and was discharged, August 30, 1864.

Fernando C. L. W. Thayer enlisted in January, 1864, and was assigned to Company A. He was transferred with the veterans to the Thirty-sixth Regiment.

While the regiment was in Tennessee in December, 1863, a large part of the men reënlisted for the war. The veterans were granted a furlough of thirty days and were permitted to visit their homes. When the regiment was dismissed at the expiration of term of service, the veterans were transferred to the Thirty-sixth Regiment. In this connection their continued service is stated. They remained with the army in Virginia until the regiment was disbanded at the expiration of term of service. They were then transferred to the Fifty-sixth Regiment and were honorably discharged with that regiment, July 12, 1865. The service was long and the record honorable. The veterans who counted twice on the quota of Ashburnham were, George E. Davis, Samuel C. Lesure, Lorenzo H. Gilbert, Charles Henry Puffer, George F. Puffer, Charles G. Lawrence, Erastus McIntosh, Charles H. White, George W. Lawrence, Henry H. Martindale, James M. Garnet and James E. Whipple.

Calvin Pindar enlisted on the quota of Ashburnham and reënlisted on quota of Clinton. Lyman F. Thurston of

Holden, Luther E. Stewart of Clinton, Henry C. Perkins of Fitzwilliam, New Hampshire, Frank Lumerzette of Holden and Timothy Donovan of Worcester, on reënlistment, were assigned on the quota of Ashburnham. The veterans who were credited to the quota of this town anticipated a bounty which they did not receive.

After the transfer to the Thirty-sixth Regiment in 1864 there were several casualties which have not been stated. Sylvester F. Oliver died January 29, 1865; Waldo Dwinnell was taken prisoner at the battle of the Wilderness, May 6, 1864, and died within the rebel lines in September following; Frank Lumerzette died of wounds, August 12, 1864; Henry C. Perkins was transferred February 11, 1865, to the Veteran Reserve Corps, and James E. Whipple was discharged on account of disability, January 19, 1865.

In the Twenty-first Regiment, associated with and one of the men of Ashburnham, was Colonel Joseph P. Rice. He early manifested a military spirit and ability to command. He had been an able and popular commander of the Ashburnham Light Infantry, and at the outbreak of the war he was colonel of the Ninth Regiment of militia to which the Light Infantry belonged. In this service he had enjoyed the respect and confidence of his associates. In the beginning of the war he early tendered the service of his command to the governor and was greatly disappointed that his regiment was not accepted. Ready to enter the service in any capacity he was commissioned a captain in the Twenty-first Regiment and assigned to the command of Company H. In February following he was promoted to major and to lieutenant-colonel, May 16. He was a soldier in the best use of the term, and to bravery and courage he united manliness of character and genuine kindness of heart. At the battle of Chantilly, September 1, 1862, while advancing beyond

his command, to determine whether a force in his front were friends or enemies, he was shot through the body by a musket-ball and died instantly. The intelligence of his death was received with sudden grief and unfeigned expressions of personal sorrow. At a meeting of the town, November 4, 1862, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That as citizens of Ashburnham we desire to express our deep sense of the loss we have sustained in the recent death of Lieutenant-Colonel Joseph P. Rice at the battle of Chantilly, and our appreciation of the lasting obligations under which we rest for the great service he has rendered us and his country in the time of need, and to show, as far as in us lies, a becoming respect for his memory.

Resolved, That in the death of Colonel Rice we mourn the loss of one who has been to us a friend and a townsman faithful to every delegated trust, discharging all the duties imposed upon him with a generous disregard of self and in such a manner as to entitle him to our warmest admiration and respect.

The best and wisest laws that have governed and fostered civilization often have been the crystallization of some rule of action which the people practised by choice a long time before they were required to yield a willing obedience to statute. In the same manner an humble and subordinate officer in the discharge of duty in a limited field has often employed methods of procedure which subsequently have been grasped and dignified with the authority of a policy in the conduct of national affairs. The officers of the army, who were the first to come into immediate contact with the institution of slavery and the attending embarrassments, originated and early put in practice the liberal policy which was finally adopted by the Government.

In the autumn of 1861, while the Twenty-first Regiment was in Maryland, in accordance with a practice then prevailing and encouraged in the army, the officers were expected to return to the owner any slave who might be found in their vicinity. Captain Walker, faithfully representing the sentiment of the men from Ashburnham under his command, was the first officer who refused to perform this service. On an occasion when Captain Walker was officer of the day, the dignified personage of Governor Hicks applied to him for the recovery of a slave then within the lines of the regiment. The governor was met with a decided refusal, from which he appealed with effect to the colonel of the regiment. The colonel ordered Captain Walker to find and deliver the fugitive to the expectant owner. To this Captain Walker replied that he did not enter the service for an opportunity of hunting slaves and politely requested his superior officer to detail some other captain to perform this servile duty. Then every captain in the regiment was in turn detailed for this work and every one followed the example of Captain Walker. The negro finally escaped. Had the fortunes of this slave been less fortuitous, the events of the day were the harbinger of the freedom of his race.

The large number already named, who entered the service in 1861, did not exhaust the patriotic impulse of the town. Immediately after the departure of Company G, Twenty-first Regiment, twenty men enlisted in Company F, Twenty-fifth Regiment. They were mustered into the service at Worcester in September and left for the seat of war, October 31, 1861. This organization has an excellent record. It was a part of the Burnside expedition and was retained in North Carolina until the decisive campaign in Virginia. It then participated in the battle of Cold Harbor and other engagements near Richmond. In October, 1864,

the reënlisted veterans and the later recruits formed a battalion of four companies and remained in the service until July 13, 1865. Three recruits, credited on the quota of Ashburnham, subsequently were assigned to this regiment and will be named in later paragraphs.

Frank A. Davis, Michael FitzGibbon, Francis H. Morton and Carlos P. Ward were veterans in this regiment. Davis and FitzGibbon were discharged at the close of the war in July, 1865. Morton was transferred to the Veteran Reserve Corps, and Ward, whose original enlistment was not credited to the quota of this town, died at Newbern, North Carolina, November 14, 1864.

Corporal Augustus S. Rockwood, Corporal John A. Spaulding, Octavius W. Brown, Harvey Clark, Lincoln Wallace and Martin Burgess were discharged at expiration of term of service in October, 1864. Burgess was a member of Company I, and Rockwood was wounded.

Stephen C. Hastings, musician, was honorably discharged August 30, 1862, at the reduction of the band, and Francis J. Barrett was killed at Cold Harbor, Virginia, June 3, 1864.

The remaining eight were discharged on account of disability as follows: Sergeant Oliver D. Wilder, March 12, 1863; James L. Walker, April 6, 1863; Luther Clark, March 12, 1863; Parley McIntire, May 20, 1863; Orin Morton, January 31, 1863; Charles E. Smith, May 26, 1862; Joshua T. Stowell, August 7, 1862, and Michael Thompson, April 27, 1863.

In this regiment and in Company I, was Henry K. Sampson who was originally credited on the quota of Royalston. He reënlisted on the quota of this town in January, 1864, and was discharged in July, 1865.

The remaining enlistments, during the year 1861, included Samuel D. Holt who enlisted on the quota of Readville in the Twenty-fourth Regiment, December 4, 1861, and reënlisted on the quota of Ashburnham and was promoted corporal in January, 1864; he continued in the service until January, 1866; Bartholomew Coughlin, who enlisted December 6, in the Twenty-ninth Regiment and died 1862; Pascal Brooks enlisted November 1, in Thirty-second Regiment and died October 1, 1862, at Sharpsburg, Maryland; Francis S. Willard enlisted November 1, in Thirty-second Regiment and died in Virginia, February 5, 1863; Leroy A. Howe enlisted November 6, in Thirty-second Regiment and was discharged on account of disability, November 29, 1862; Charles F. Leathers, a veteran, enlisted November 4, in Thirty-second Regiment, promoted to corporal, reënlisted January 5, 1864, and was dismissed with his regiment, June 29, 1865; Marcus L. Ward enlisted October 30, 1861, in Thirty-second Regiment and was discharged on account of disability, February 26, 1863; John Hare enlisted November 7, 1861, Thirtieth Regiment, died at Ship Island, Mississippi, March 8, 1862; George G. Farwell enlisted November 2, 1861, on the quota of Fitchburg, in Thirty-second Regiment; he reënlisted January 4, 1864, on quota of this town and was killed June 18, 1864.

In 1862 there was a call for three hundred thousand men. The quota of Ashburnham was twenty-seven. In the Thirty-fourth Regiment, which left the State August 15, there were five men from this town. They enlisted in July. Sergeant Charles Wood was promoted to second lieutenant, May 15, 1865, and discharged with his regiment; Walter O. Parker, musician, was discharged with his regiment, June 16, 1865; Sumner W. Black died at Harper's Ferry, Virginia, November 10, 1863; Alfred Castle was discharged

on account of disability, February 11, 1865, and Martin V. B. Grimes was discharged on account of wounds, February 16, 1865.

The Thirty-sixth Regiment was recruited in July and August and left the State September 2. This organization contained, at this time, twenty-three men from this town. It will be noted that a few of them were temporary residents at the date of enlistment.

Of the twenty-three in this service, nine were honorably discharged with their regiment, June 8, 1865, as follows: Sergeant Charles W. Whitney promoted to second lieutenant, November 13, 1864, Sergeant George N. Duncan, Sergeant Charles I. Fish, Chester B. Gale, Francis H. Perkins, Frank S. Learned, John C. Lawrence, Cyrus W. Nickerson and Joseph Oaks.

On account of disability the following six were discharged: Thomas H. Ryan, March 11, 1863; Sergeant Waldo A. Foster, May 30, 1863; Corporal John B. Harty, date unknown; John L. Finney, January 13, 1865; Mitchell Larby, no record; Edward Sibley, April 12, 1865.

The individual record of the remaining men is as follows: Sergeant Joseph Hames died of wounds, June 4, 1864; Corporal Frederick Biron died of wounds at Knoxville, Kentucky, January 11, 1864; Corporal Max Hoffman was killed at Petersburg, Virginia, June 17, 1864; Otis Metcalf and Edward B. Merriam were transferred to the Veteran Reserve Corps; Dennis Murphy reënlisted and was transferred on the quota of Hardwick to the regular army; Charles W. Allard was left in the hospital at Worcester and there died, September 15, a few days after the regiment left the State. The record of the remaining man from Ashburnham is exceptional. Charles Sherbert deserted April 27, 1863.

The Thirty-sixth Regiment was an organization of good repute. In the army in Virginia, in Mississippi and the siege of Vicksburg and later in Virginia, in the closing yet sanguinary service of the war, it has left an honorable and gallant record.

In the autumn of this year the Fifty-third Regiment was recruited under the call of the President for men to serve nine months. In this organization Ashburnham was represented by twenty-seven officers and men. Of this regiment, George H. Barrett, who had been an officer of the Light Infantry, was lieutenant-colonel. The regiment was ordered to the South and rendered efficient service in Louisiana under General Banks. The organization was mustered out September 3, 1863.

In this service four died of disease, one was killed in action and two were discharged on account of disability. Henry A. Marble died at New Orleans, May 19; Rinaldo Shattuck died May 8, at Brashear; Stephen C. Whitney died February 20, at New Orleans; James M. Woodell died June 7, at New Orleans; Russell Whipple was killed at Port Hudson, June 14; Corporal Orange E. Howe was discharged February 25 and William M. Young was discharged March 12, 1863. The remaining twenty-one completed the term of enlistment and were returned to their homes in September, 1863: Lieutenant-Colonel George H. Barrett, Sergeant William D. Capron, Corporal Spencer Frost, Corporal William Wallace, Corporal Ransom G. Stowell, Francis S. Balcom, Marshall H. Bourne, Aaron G. Buttrick, David M. Cushing, Edwin J. Cushing, Lewis Glazier, Thomas M. Howard, Charles B. Jones, James F. Lincoln, Horace O. Mansfield, Augustine May, Francis H. Merriam, Francis A. Munroe, Hobart W. Piper, Harvey J. Rice, Frederick R. Whipple.

Colonel Barrett was commissioned captain of Company I, and promoted to lieutenant-colonel, November 10. He was in command of the regiment at its departure from the State and remained in the service until the regiment was discharged.

These numerous enlistments filled the quota of 1862. At this time the town met and passed the following resolution:

Resolved, That we recognize the devotion and disinterested services of all our fellow-townsmen who have gone out from among us to engage in the service of the country, and that the town clerk be requested to collect and enter upon the town records the names of all our townsmen who have been or may hereafter be killed or otherwise lose their lives in the service of their country in putting down the present unholy rebellion.

The generous impulse of the several towns which tendered temporary relief to the families of the soldiers was sustained and continued by the State and through the war the generous measures adopted by the Commonwealth were faithfully executed by the towns. The continued action of the citizens and of the town officers of Ashburnham was in full accord with a generous and comprehensive system of benevolence.

The enlistments of 1861 and 1862 called a large proportion of the men of suitable age into the service. The quota of 1863 was filled with less alacrity and a draft was ordered. This peremptory demand for troops was general throughout the North, and Ashburnham shared with other towns a new experience of the war. Sixty-four men from this town were drafted. Of these a considerable number were discharged on account of disability and of those held for service, several furnished substitutes or paid commutation. The names of those who entered the service in response to this imperative command will appear in the subsequent paragraphs in the

list of those who entered the service. The names of the drafted men are as follows:

John D. Hapgood
Charles F. Rockwood
George A. Stone
Austin Brooks
Granville B. Gilchrist
Samuel E. Stone
Albert F. Johnson
Willard P. Drury
William Dalrymple
Hiland Hall
Orrin N. Bennett
William Briggs
Alexander Morse
William W. Lane
George L. Beals, Jr.
Asahel Wheeler
Earl Richel
Merrick Hadley
Nazzar Dane
Charles W. Lane
Stephen Sawin
Edwin J. Russell
Henry Pelky
Jonas P. Sawin
William Franklin
Thomas Doolan
William L. G. Ward
Alexander Grout
Jesse W. Goodwin
Hosea S. Whitney
Charles H. Wallace
Rodney King
Franklin S. Oliver
Osmore A. Brigham
Timothy O'Keif
Walter Lawrence
Irving Brooks
Jona. E. Goodwin
David S. Brown
Wendell P. Clark
Frederick Wilder
Benton Adams
Robert N. Shaw
Ed. W. Weston
George F. Potter
Joseph L. Brigham
George G. Hadley
Charles C. Eaton
Orange S. May
Martin B. Lane
Patrick Mulchy
John M. Baldwin
Augustus G. Nutting
Edward G. Newell
Henry W. Ward
Charles S. Keyes
Fred M. Stanley
Edwin A. Whitney
Osman Casvant
William C. Marea
Mark Dunlap
Theodore Barron
Peter Sherbert
Cyrus D. Horton

The immediate effect of the draft was depressing. The gloomy days of the war and the season of discontent were during the spring and early summer of 1863. The spontaneous enthusiasm among the masses which attended the early progress of the war, reflecting the warm colors of hope and courage, began to wane and a general sentiment of depression was instant and pervading. Presently the victory at Gettysburg and the success of the army in the West invited the people to rally for the closing struggle. The firm command of General Grant and a unity of movement and purpose, which controlled the separate armies, restored the confidence and elicited an enthusiasm scarcely less exultant than that which thrilled the loyal North at the fall of Sumter. During these fluctuations in the general sentiment of the North, the people of Ashburnham, unmoved by the influences of the hour, maintained a record unstained by the shadow of disloyalty.

The men who entered the service in 1863 were generally assigned to regiments already in the field and very few of them were in any one organization. In July Rodney King was assigned to the Nineteenth and transferred to the Twentieth Regiment; John M. Baldwin was assigned to the Thirty-ninth and transferred to the Thirty-second Regiment; John E. Valentine, a corporal, to the Fifteenth Regiment; and John Fitzgerald to the Nineteenth and transferred to the Twentieth Regiment. These men remained in the service to the close of the war and were honorably discharged.

In July and August the quota of the town was credited with the names of Charles Lepond, John Shaffer, James Burke, Charles Wilson and Thomas Andrews. These were hired recruits and all of them deserted soon after, and to secure additional bounty, undoubtedly, they enlisted and deserted again before the close of the war.

George F. Potter enlisted July 14 and was assigned to the Sixteenth Regiment. He was subsequently transferred to the Eleventh Regiment and was discharged in May, 1865. In the Second Regiment Heavy Artillery was Harvey P. Brooks and Edwin A. Pollard; the former enlisted in July and served to the end of the war; the latter enlisted in October and died at Newbern, North Carolina, November 16, 1864. Francis Sacket, who enlisted in November, was assigned to the Twenty-seventh Regiment and in January, 1865, was transferred to the Veteran Reserve Corps. Patrick Doolan enlisted in December and served to the close of the war in the First Battery Light Artillery. John Cassidy enlisted in August in the Sixteenth and was transferred to the Eleventh Regiment. He was discharged after a service of eighteen months on account of disability. Archibald McMahon enlisted December 25 and deserted from the Twenty-fifth Regiment after a service of eight weeks, and Theodore A. Dodge enlisted in the Veteran Reserve Corps in November.

From January 1, 1864, to April 1, 1865, eighty-three enlistments were credited to the quota of Ashburnham. This number includes four entries into the Twenty-first Regiment, twenty-six reënlisted men and fifty-three new enlistments. A few of the men who entered the service during this period were hired recruits who received the bounty offered by the town without reluctance or conscientious scruple, and with equal alacrity deserted at the first opportunity. Others were residents of this town and all of these earned an honorable record. In the following list will appear the names of several who had previously been honorably discharged from a former service. Unless otherwise stated all of the following were honorably discharged on account of expiration of term of service or at the close of the war.

NAMES.	DATE OF ENLISTMENT.	MILITARY ORGANIZATION	REMARKS.
William S. White	Jan. 4, 1864	57th Regiment	Discharged July 30, 1865
John Fregean	"	"	Died May 30, 1864
Louis C. E. Coderre	"	"	Deserted April 1, 1864
Morris Smeddy	Jan. 18, 1864	7th Regiment	Transferred to 37th and to 20th Regt.; discharged June 16, 1865
Dennis O'Neill	Jan. 5, 1864	25th Regiment	Died in Rebel Prison Aug. 6, 1864
Josiah Thomas	Jan. 29, 1864	5th Cavalry	Discharged Oct. 1, 1865
Job Foster	May 13, 1864	19th Regiment	Discharged Mar. 25, 1865
William Doolan	"	"	Discharged July 20, 1865
James Kelley	June 2, 1864	"	Discharged June 30, 1865
Frank B. Sawtelle	June 14, 1864	2d H. A.	Discharged May 6, 1865. He had previously been in Regimental Band 20th Regt.
Henry T. Lane	June 14, 1864	2d H. A.	Died Oct. 29, 1864
Charles T. Chamberlain	July 20, 1864	60th Regiment	100 days service; dischar'd Nov. 30, 1864
Charles L. Starkey	July 20, 1864		100 days service; dischar'd Nov. 30, 1864
Albert H. Tuckerman	July 23, 1864	5th Regiment	100 days service; dischar'd Nov. 16, 1864
Hobart W. Piper	Aug. 6, 1864	Unattached	Promoted corporal; discharged Nov. 14, 1864. He formerly served in 53d Regt.
Frank W. Bemis	Aug. 6, 1864	Unattached	Discharged Nov. 14, 1864
Irving Brooks	"	"	"
Harlem E. Ward	"	"	"
			This name is repeated in a later service
Alexander O'Brien	Aug. 11, 1864	29th Regiment	Discharged July 29, 1865
Samuel A. Taylor	Aug. 16, 1864	4th H. A.	Formerly a captain in 21st Regt. In this service he was a lieutenant; resig'd March 8, 1865
Asahel Wheeler	Aug. 20, 1864	4th H. A.	Formerly a captain in 21st Regt. He was commissioned a captain in this service and assigned to the 61st Regt. Mustered out at expiration of term of service
Joseph H. Whitney	Aug. 20, 1864	4th H. A.	This was his third enlistment. He was formerly a lieutenant in 21st Regt. Promoted in this service to sergeant-major, Dec. 1, 1864; discharged June 17, 1865
Oliver D. Wilder	Aug. 20, 1864	4th H. A.	Discharged June 17, 1865
Theodore Greenwood	"	"	"
Ebenezer Hart	"	"	"
Frederick Hammond	"	"	"
James Fargo	"	"	"
William H. Smith	"	"	"
George O. Whitney	"	"	"
Joseph Hanwart	Sept. 21, 1864	30th Regiment	Discharged July 5, 1866
Etiene Lechuga	"	"	"
Sereno Newton	Feb. 6, 1865	2d Cavalry	Discharged May 18, 1865
Richard C. Chase	Feb. 21, 1865	"	Discharged July 20, 1865
David O. Williams	Feb. 2, 1865	1st H. A.	Deserted Oct. 4, 1865
Charles H. Whipple	Feb. 23, 1865	14th Artillery	Discharged June 15, 1865
Walter C. Clark	Feb. 6, 1865	19th Regiment	Discharged Feb. 20, 1865, on account of disability
Harlem E. Ward	Jan. 3, 1865	4th Cavalry	Discharged Aug. 12, 1865
Michael Horrigan	Feb. 18, 1865	19th Regiment	Discharged June 30, 1865
George G. Hadley	June 28, 1864	V. R. C.	Discharged Aug. 31, 1866
Isaac Call	Aug. 29, 1864	"	Discharged Nov. 15, 1865
Michael Mulloy	Aug. 27, 1864	"	Deserted Sept. 29, 1864

NAMES.	DATE OF ENLISTMENT.	MILITARY ORGANIZATION	REMARKS.
James Walker	Sept. 1, 1864	V. R. C.	Discharged Nov. 14, 1864
Newton B. Whitman	Sept. 2, 1864	"	No record
William Pfaffie	Feb. 20, 1865	"	"
Charles W. Kendall	Dec. 20, 1864	Hancock Corps	"
Michael Murphy	Jan. 18, 1865	"	"
John E. Walfant	"	"	"
John Rebel	Feb. 6, 1865	N. C. Regiment	"
William G. Davenport	Sept. 14, 1864	U. S. A.	"
George H. Litch	Nov. 11, 1864	"	"
Charles W. Brigham	Mar. 2, 1865	"	"
Francis E. Brigham	Mar. 3, 1865	"	"
William Butler	Feb. 4, 1865	"	"

In the midst of the later enlistments and accounting for a few of them the following persons were drafted May 16, 1864: Patrick O'Brien, Martin N. Ward, Thomas Hammond, Thomas Mahan, Amos F. Willard, Patrick J. Hare, Timothy A. Tenney, Merrick Hadley, George A. Stone, Job Foster, Orange S. Whitmore, Hezekiah Matthews, Joseph L. Brigham, Frederick Pelky, George G. Rockwood, Aaron Rice, William Doolan and Hartwell Tenney. No official statement of the several quotas of this town has been found and the records of the town afford no information. The number of enlistments in 1861 was eighty-five; in 1862 fifty-seven; in 1863 eighteen and in 1864 and the early months of 1865, including the veterans, there were eighty-three enlistments, making an aggregate of two hundred and forty-three entries in the service from this town during the war. The whole number of individuals who entered the service from Ashburnham, so far as found in this record, is two hundred and thirteen. Joseph H. Whitney is credited with three enlistments and the following persons were counted twice upon the quota of the town: Charles H. Heald, Martin V. B. Grimes, Charles W. Kendall, Francis Sacket, Augustus McIntosh, Samuel A. Taylor, Asahel Wheeler, George E. Davis, Samuel C. Lesure, Lorenzo H. Gilbert, Charles G. Lawrence, George W. Lawrence.

Charles H. Puffer, George F. Puffer, Henry H. Martindale, Charles H. White, Erastus McIntosh, James M. Garnet, George G. Hadley, Ransom G. Stowell, James E. Whipple, Frank A. Davis, Michael FitzGibbon, Francis H. Morton, Oliver D. Wilder, Charles F. Leathers, Hobart W. Piper, Harlem E. Ward.

Several, who were residents of Ashburnham at the time they entered the service, enlisted on the quota and their names appear in the records of other towns. It is not presumed that the following list is complete.

Noyes B. Herrick, Clarence D. Proctor and Alden W. Parker, on the quota of Fitchburg, served in the Fourth Regiment Heavy Artillery from August 20, 1864, to June 17, 1865.

Lieutenant George M. Munroe, on the quota of Boston, was an original member of Company G, Twenty-first Regiment. He was promoted from first sergeant to second lieutenant, September 26, 1862, and to first lieutenant, March 3, 1863. At the battle of Antietam, after Lieutenant Charles H. Parker was removed from the field on account of wounds, he assumed command of the company and was wounded in the knee and the arm.

Charles L. Stimson was in Company E, Twenty-fourth Regiment, on the quota of Boston. He was detailed as military secretary to General Burnside and subsequently was commissioned a lieutenant in the First Ohio Cavalry.

George Henry Stearns, credited to Bridgewater, was a member of the Brigade Band, Twentieth Army Corps.

William H. Richardson, Otis Pratt and Aaron Pratt served in Rhode Island regiments.

Aaron B. Bixby enlisted from Fitchburg in Company A, Thirty-sixth Regiment, and was transferred in September, 1863, to the Veteran Reserve Corps.

Corporal Charles M. Whitney, assigned to quota of Fitchburg, was a member of Company D, Twenty-first Regiment. He was killed September 1, 1862, at the battle of Chantilly.

Ephraim W. Moore enlisted from Boston in Company F, Second Regiment. He died August 20, 1862, from wounds received in the engagement of Cedar Mountain.

Newton Brooks, on the quota of Gardner, was a member of Company G, Fifty-third Regiment.

Patrick Fitzgerald, there known as James Fitz, was a member of Company K, Sixth New Hampshire Regiment. He served from November, 1861, to July 17, 1865.

Webster W. Wallace, on the quota of Lawrence, enlisted in First Regiment Heavy Artillery, August 1, 1861. He was promoted a sergeant and died of wounds, July 26, 1864.

In other regiments are found the names of Henry Merriam, George Willard, Charles Stone, John L. Cook, Reuben A. Buzzell, George O. Metcalf and George P. Ward.

A large number of the sons of Ashburnham who removed from their native town previous to the war were in the service and several were officers of rank and distinction. So far as the facts are ascertained, a record of service will be given in the family registers.

CHAPTER XX.

PHYSICIANS. — LAWYERS. — PERSONAL NOTICES. — COLLEGE GRADUATES. — OTHER SONS OF ASHBURNHAM.

DOCTORS BROOKS, SENTER, ABRAHAM LOWE, ABRAHAM T. LOWE, NATHANIEL PEIRCE, ABERCROMBIE, CUTLER, STONE, MILLER, WALLACE, WHITMORE, MATTOON, TEMPLE, JILLSON, CHARLES L. PIERCE, STICKNEY, AMORY JEWETT, NATHANIEL JEWETT. — LAWYERS CUNNINGHAM, ADAMS, PARKER AND ANDREWS. — SAMUEL WILDER. — JOSEPH JEWETT. — IVERS JEWETT. — JACOB WILLARD. — SILAS WILLARD. — JOHN ADAMS. — ENOCH WHITMORE. — JEROME W. FOSTER. — OHIO WHITNEY. — ISAAC HILL. — THOMAS PARKMAN CUSHING. — MILTON WHITNEY. — A LIST OF COLLEGE GRADUATES. — OTHER SONS OF ASHBURNHAM.

PHYSICIANS. — Ashburnham has been fortunate in the character and ability of the resident physicians. The following list includes several men of superior skill and professional reputation.

DR. PETER BROOKS was the first physician of Ashburnham, and during the greater part of his practice here he had no competitor. Dr. Senter was here a short time, but his practice was not of sufficient duration to disturb him in the full possession of the field which he held until the arrival of Dr. Lowe. Dr. Brooks lived on the old Winchendon road, between the common and the David Russell farm. About 1792 he left town and nothing is known of his subsequent history. His family remained permanently and his descendants in this town have been numerous. Of the native ability and professional skill of Dr. Brooks little is known. From the fact that he remained here twenty years it is reasonable

to presume that he enjoyed some measure of public confidence.

DR. SENTER was here a short time immediately preceding the Revolution. In 1774 he was chosen one of a committee to amend the Boston Covenant before it was signed, but his name does not appear again in the records. Tradition preserves his name and compliments him with good ability and a liberal education. His stay was brief and his connection with this town unimportant.

DR. ABRAHAM LOWE, son of Jonathan and Sarah (Perkins) Lowe, was born in Ipswich, February 11, 1755. The homestead of his father was in the parish of Chebacco, and is now a part of the town of Essex. In his infancy the family removed to Lunenburg. If Dr. Lowe did not pursue a liberal course of academical study at the schools he was a close and attentive reader and an accurate scholar. His professional studies were pursued under the tuition of Dr. Abraham Haskell, a justly famed physician of Lunenburg. At this time Dr. Lowe became acquainted with Dr. Peter Snow, who was a fellow-student, and subsequently a distinguished physician and esteemed citizen of Fitchburg. The acquaintance ripened into a mutual friendship which was sustained through life. In 1786, or the year preceding, Dr. Lowe removed to Ashburnham and here began the labor of a long and useful life. In an eminent degree he was trusted as a physician and esteemed as a citizen. He was frequently chosen to positions of trust and in professional employment he had no rival for many years. Among his minor employments Dr. Lowe was town clerk seven years, transcribing the records in a clear hand and in well-chosen language. But for municipal service he found little leisure. His active years were devoted to his profession and few physicians have practised with less criticism and greater success. Among

his fellow-men he was accorded a supremacy which is only surrendered to superior abilities and unchallenged character. The aged who remember him are familiar with the courtesy of his manner, the kindness of his heart and the impress of truth and wisdom which attended his speech. He died October 23, 1834.

Dr. Abraham T. Lowe, a son of Dr. Abraham Lowe and Charlotte (Hale) Lowe, was born in this town, August 15, 1796. The influences of his home invited study, and at an early age he attended the academy in New Ipswich, and at twenty years of age he was graduated a Doctor of Medicine at Dartmouth Medical College. At the solicitation of his father he commenced practice in this town where he was successfully employed nine years. His circuit extended into Westminster and other adjoining towns. Of his professional labors at this time Dr. Lowe has said, "My duties called me, I believe, almost without exception, into every house and family in town. I knew the direction and condition of every road, bridle path and passable cross-cut way. I never, while in health, declined a professional visit. I rode on horseback, in a light-wheel carriage, or sleigh, to meet the requirements of the season or state of the travelled ways; but there were times when travelling in either of these modes was impracticable; then I took to my rackets, or Indian snow-shoes; and I have frequently in this manner made visits, both in and out of town."

In the midst of this arduous, professional employment Dr. Lowe took an active interest in the schools of this town and was a member of the committee of supervision. He was popular with all classes and is held in grateful remembrance by the aged who were his associates. In 1825 or 1826 he removed to Boston and engaged in the business of a wholesale and prescription druggist. In this business he was successful and retired with a competency in 1839.



A. V. Dowe

Dr. Lowe has been a director in several monetary institutions and in this direction his service has been conspicuous. In 1859 he was chosen president of the Safety Fund Bank which subsequently became the First National Bank of Boston, and under his sagacious management this institution has maintained a prominent position among its energetic rivals. Dr. Lowe was an able advocate, and was prominently identified with the construction of the Boston and Lowell railroad. At that date many regarded the project as experimental, but the substantial results are a tribute to the foresight and judgment of Dr. Lowe and his associates. He was one of the early directors of the road from Worcester to Albany and for several years a director of the Boston and Worcester railroad and also the Fall River railroad. He early and clearly comprehended the importance of these gigantic enterprises and with energy and courage he labored for the future interests of his city and Commonwealth.

In addition to efficient service for the public schools of Boston, he has repeatedly served in the Board of Aldermen, and beginning in 1824, he has been a member of the Massachusetts Legislature several years. In this service he disclosed the rare traits of mind and of character which distinguish his successful career in business.

In early life Dr. Lowe compiled the Columbian Orator, a school-book which was favorably received, and subsequently he published the Second Class Book, for younger pupils; but he is better known as the author of several papers upon scientific and medical subjects. He is one of the original trustees of Cushing Academy and during the past ten years he has been president of the board.

Dr. Lowe at the age of almost ninety years has earned a respite from active employment. Without ambition or ostentation he has conscientiously met every responsibility

and faithfully directed every interest confided to his care. His industry, his integrity and his purity of character, which attended him through life, now crown his age with blessings and honor.

Dr. Nathaniel Peirce, a son of Oliver and Mary (Smith) Peirce, was born in Lunenburg, October 8, 1778. He pursued his preparatory studies at New Ipswich Academy and was a teacher in the public schools several years. He entered Harvard University, but on account of failing health did not graduate. Later he pursued a course of professional study and received his diploma at the Medical School, then in Weathersfield, Vermont, and in that town he practised a short time. Leaving Weathersfield he removed to his native town where he was engaged in the manufacture of wool or felt hats, at that time one of the home industries of New England. He removed to this town in 1825 and immediately entered upon the practice of his profession. From the first he secured and maintained the confidence of the people and for many years his practice was large and remunerative. In the mean time he purchased many acres of land and became a prosperous farmer, and as the infirmities of age invited him to less active pursuits he gradually retired from practice and gave his attention to the supervision of his farm.

A tall, commanding man, his head towering above the multitude, he was dignified in manner and deliberate in the use of words. In method he was direct and aggressive, and if he was sometimes blunt in his speech he was generally just. His opinions were well matured and when required they were expressed without evasion or concealment. If he honestly differed with others in opinion and expressed his own views plainly, he tolerated no contention and conducted no quarrels. He was a kind neighbor, an honest man and a faithful citizen. He was frequently chosen by his townsmen



Wm H. Butler.

to local office and was a member of the Legislature 1831 and 1832. He died September 3, 1862.

Dr. Otis Abercrombie, a native of Deerfield and a graduate of the Yale Medical School, came to Ashburnham in 1827. He was favorably received and was chosen a member of the school committee soon after his arrival. At this time the field was occupied by members of the profession who had become established in the confidence of the people. In 1829 he removed to Fitchburg. After a successful practice of nine years, on account of failing health, he retired from business and removed to Lunenburg where he died January 24, 1851, aged forty-nine years.

Dr. William H. Cutler, son of Jonathan and Keziah (Hutchins) Cutler, was born in Plainfield, Connecticut, July 2, 1787. After attending school at the academy in Plainfield he pursued his professional studies with Dr. Darius Hutchins of Abington, Connecticut. His first professional labors were in Winchendon where he practised about seven years. In 1820 he removed to New Salem and was there successfully employed until he removed to this town in 1829. In Winchendon he was a member of the school committee in 1819 and in New Salem he was frequently chosen to positions of trust, among which he was for many years one of the trustees of the New Salem Academy. In this town Dr. Cutler rode a wide circuit many years and was justly regarded as a conscientious, skilful physician. As a man, he was upright, sincere and honest, and was held in high esteem. As the infirmities of age grew upon him he retired from active practice and removed in 1864 to Andover where he died July 16, 1867.

Dr. William P. Stone, son of David and Lydia (Perkins) Stone and a brother of Rev. Benjamin P. Stone, D. D., late of Concord, New Hampshire, was born in Reading,

Vermont, July 23, 1809. A few years after this date the family removed from Reading to Enosburg, Vermont. Dr. Stone graduated at Dartmouth Medical School in 1835 and came to this town in 1837, where he was successfully employed eight years. From the first he was well received. Beneath a modest and unassuming manner, there was no failure in the discovery of an intelligent mind and a faithful and competent physician. He had many friends and no enemies. In the spring of 1845 he removed to Boston and previous to 1850 he removed to Danbury, New Hampshire, where he remained several years. In October, 1862, he was commissioned assistant surgeon of the Second New Hampshire Volunteers, and was promoted to surgeon of this regiment, July 6, 1864. He remained in the service until the regiment was mustered out, December 19, 1865. Soon after the war he removed from Danbury to Westminster, Vermont, where he continued the practice of his profession a few years. He died in Burke, New York, 1872.

Dr. Alfred Miller, son of John and Betsey (Robinson) Miller, was born in Westminster, Vermont, March 15, 1815. He pursued his preparatory studies in the schools of Westminster and Bernardston and graduated at Middlebury College 1840. While reading for his profession he taught school several years and completed his study with Dr. Alfred Hitchcock and at the Medical School in Woodstock, Vermont, where he graduated in 1844. In the following year he entered upon the practice of his profession in this town where he was successfully employed until he removed to Fitchburg in 1863.

He was a skilful physician and was highly respected by all who knew him. Affable and kind in his manner, attentive to the calls of his profession, he was a popular physician and a valued citizen. Dr. Miller was repeatedly elected a

member of the school committee and to other positions of trust. In Fitchburg he was eminently successful. He continued in active practice in that city until his death, November 15, 1877, aged sixty-two years. He was a member of the Legislature 1866 and 1876.

Dr. Merrick Wallace, a son of Nahum Wallace of Oxford, was born April 12, 1808. In 1847 he completed a course of study at the Botanical Medical College then in Worcester, and to this school of medicine he closely adhered in his practice. His remedial methods were then comparatively new and he early secured a liberal patronage. His practice extended into the adjoining towns and frequently he made long journeys in response to demands for his professional attendance. Dr. Wallace was also a successful farmer and in this pursuit he manifested a constant interest. He died May 22, 1875.

Dr. Lorenzo Locke Whitmore, a son of Colonel Enoch and Clarissa (Willard) Whitmore, was born in this town, July 2, 1823. With the exception of Dr. Abraham T. Lowe, he is the only physician in this town who was born within the field of his professional labor. He pursued a liberal course of academical and professional study, graduating at the Harvard Medical School in the class of 1852. After a brief practice in Warwick, he returned to this town and assumed the management of a large farm which for more than one hundred years has been the homestead of his ancestors. For several years he rode an extended circuit in this town and in Rindge, and fully maintained the confidence of his patrons. More recently he has found full employment in the management of his farm.

Dr. John Orlando Mattoon (eclectic) was a native of Vershire, Vermont, born October 10, 1837. He was educated at the academy in Chelsea, Vermont, and the

well-known institution in New London, New Hampshire. He read for his profession with Dr. George K. Bagley of Chelsea, Vermont, and graduated at a medical school in Cincinnati in 1858. The same year he located in this town and practised with a fair measure of success until his early death which occurred January 13, 1862.

Dr. Theron Temple, son of John and Sally (Taylor) Temple, was born in Heath, April 20, 1833. He is a graduate of Berkshire Medical College in class of 1856. In 1857 he entered upon the practice of his profession in Belchertown and was there successfully employed until 1861, when he was commissioned assistant-surgeon in the Twenty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers. This regiment was assigned to the Burnside expedition. In this service Dr. Temple contracted malarial fever and resigned in the spring of 1862. The same year he removed to this town where he commanded the respect of the community and secured a lucrative practice. While residing in this town he was examining surgeon by appointment from Governor Andrew. In the autumn of 1864, he removed to Amherst and continued in active practice until 1875. During the past ten years he has been employed in the customs service at Boston with a residence in Waltham.

Dr. Harvey D. Jillson (eclectic) pursued his professional studies at Harvard Medical School and at Worcester. Adopting the theories of the eclectic school, he entered upon the practice of his profession in Leominster in 1860. He removed to this town in 1864. He was elected a member of the school committee for three years but removed to Fitchburg in 1868 before the completion of the term. For two years he was president of the Worcester North Eclectic Society, and eleven years its secretary, and was a vice-president of the National Eclectic Medical Society.

He died September 25, 1877, aged forty-three years.

Dr. Charles L. Pierce, son of John F. and Abigail Fiske Pierce, was born in Derby, Vermont, May 17, 1840. He attended school at Newbury, Vermont, and at Meriden, New Hampshire, and graduated at the New York College of Physicians and Surgeons. He practised his profession a short time at Charlestown, New Hampshire, and removed to this town in 1865. Dr. Pierce was generally regarded as a skilful physician and was employed by a considerable part of the community. He removed to Natick in 1871, and from thence to San Francisco, California, where he died May 11, 1885.

Dr. Alonzo Lawrence Stickney, son of Alvah and Rebecca (Wright) Stickney, was born in Townsend, May 26, 1835. He attended the academies at Milford and New Ipswich, New Hampshire, and graduated at Harvard Medical School in the class of 1862. His first professional labors were at Sutton. In the spring of 1864 he was appointed assistant-surgeon in the regular army and served to the close of the war. Returning to Sutton he was there successfully employed in the practice of his profession until his removal to this town in 1871. In an unusual degree, he early secured and has merited the confidence of his patrons. His success as a physician and his usefulness as a citizen will elicit prompt recognition in future reviews of completed labor.

Dr. Amory Jewett, son of Amory and Lucy E. (Diewaide) Jewett, was born in Boston, January 17, 1833. He attended the public schools of Boston and graduated at the Eclectic Medical College, Cincinnati, Ohio. After a brief practice in Boston, he removed to this town in 1868 and remained in successful practice until 1873. Since he removed from this town he has practised in Clinton, Fitchburg

and Hubbardston. On account of failing health he has retired from active practice and now resides in Somerville. Dr. Jewett, while residing in this town, was successively secretary, councillor and president of the Worcester North Eclectic Medical Society.

Dr. Nathaniel Jewett, a brother of Dr. Amory Jewett, was born in Boston, March 10, 1841. He graduated at the Boston High School in 1858 and pursued a course of professional study under private tuition. He graduated at the Boston Dental College 1869, and at the New York Eclectic College 1871. In the mean time Dr. Jewett attended lectures at Harvard Medical School and at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York. He removed to this town in 1871 and has maintained a lucrative practice to the present time. He has been president of the Worcester North Eclectic Medical Society, and for many years the secretary and treasurer. He has been councillor and president of the Massachusetts Eclectic Medical Society and is a member of the National Eclectic Medical Association. Dr. Jewett is the eighteenth resident physician who has practised in this town and among this number none has been more constantly employed.

Dr. Charles Knowlton was here a few months in the autumn and winter of 1830–31.

Dr. Miles Spaulding, now of Groton, practised in this town from April to September, 1845, supplying the time between the practice of Dr. Stone and Dr. Miller.

Dr. John Petts, who resided in this town for many years, was a physician, but he did not engage in practice after he removed to Ashburnham.

Lawyers. — Of the four resident lawyers of this town only one remained any considerable length of time. If the good people of Ashburnham have not been wholly free from

strife and contention, they have seldom appealed to the courts for arbitration. And in some instances it is possible the contestants have found more entertainment in a continued prosecution of some domestic quarrel than could be realized in any possible terms of legal adjustment.

EPHRAIM MAY CUNNINGHAM, ESQ., practised law in this town from about 1818 to 1824. He removed to South Reading, now Wakefield. While in this town he boarded with the Jewetts, and by tradition he is furnished with the credentials of a good character and respectable abilities.

HENRY ADAMS, ESQ., came to this town in 1825, or early in 1826, and remained four or five years. He was a man of fair abilities and met with a reasonable measure of success.

GEORGE G. PARKER, ESQ., was born in Coventry, Connecticut, May 10, 1800, and was graduated at Yale in the class of 1828. He pursued his professional studies in the office of Myron Lawrence, Esq., of Belchertown, and began the practice of law in this town in 1831. He was quite deaf and labored under great embarrassment, yet he was successful and was highly esteemed by the profession and by his townsmen. He served two years in the supervision of the public schools and for many years he was a member of the board of selectmen. In 1840 and 1841 he ably represented the town in the Legislature. He died December 14, 1852.

ALBERT HAYNES ANDREWS, ESQ., son of Jeremiah and Abigail Anna (Haynes) Andrews, was born in Waltham, December 29, 1829. He attended the schools in Ashby and Fitchburg and the Academy at Westminster, and pursued his professional studies in the office of Judge Thornton K. Ware of Fitchburg. He was admitted to the Worcester county bar in 1856. With a view of entering upon the practice of law in the West, Mr. Andrews went to Chicago

and there becoming interested in the controversy attending the political situation of Kansas he raised a company of sixty men and hastened to the relief of the Free State party in this memorable conflict. Returning to the East he entered upon the practice of law in this town in the autumn of 1857. He was the fourth and last resident lawyer in Ashburnham.

While a resident of this town he was a member of the school committee and in 1860 and 1861 he represented this district in the Legislature, and was adjutant of the Ninth Regiment of Militia, then under command of Colonel Joseph P. Rice. In May, 1861, Mr. Andrews was commissioned a first lieutenant in the regular army and assigned to the Nineteenth Infantry. He continued in the service about nine years and during this time he was in fact a citizen of Ashburnham. For gallant and meritorious service at the battle of Shiloh he was breveted captain and at Stone River he won the brevet rank of major. In the autumn of 1863 Major Andrews was ordered North on recruiting service. After enlisting two hundred and sixty-five men he remained with his regiment in Tennessee and Georgia until the surrender of the Confederate army. Subsequently, Major Andrews was with his regiment in Arkansas and Louisiana until he resigned January 1, 1870. During this time he was commandant of military posts much of the time and was frequently assigned to important trusts.

During the past seventeen years Major Andrews has resided in Fitchburg, in Kansas and in San Francisco, California, and since November, 1879, he has been Inspector of Customs at Boston. In a life of diversified employment, Major Andrews has been faithful and efficient in the discharge of duty and has commanded the respect and confidence of his associates.

DEACON SAMUEL WILDER was born in Lancaster, May 7, 1739. He was a son of Colonel Caleb Wilder and a grandson of Judge Joseph Wilder. Colonel Caleb Wilder owned many acres of land in Dorchester Canada and was much employed in forwarding the settlement. His name frequently appears in the records of the proprietors, but he never resided in this town. Samuel Wilder settled here previous to 1765. At the first town meeting under the act of incorporation, March 25, 1765, he was chosen collector of the land tax. Before the close of the year he temporarily removed from the town and in November following Samuel Nichols was chosen in place of Mr. Wilder who was, as the record asserts, "out of the province." He soon returned and in 1767 he was a selectman and received other mention in the proceedings of the meetings. From this date he resided in Ashburnham continuously until his death. In early life he was a captain in the colonial militia, but he was never honored with the title after he was chosen a deacon. The records assert his popularity and the unlimited confidence of his townsmen. He was several years a member of the General Court; was the town clerk twenty-two years, a selectman fifteen years and an assessor twenty years. In addition to this extended service he was frequently chosen on important committees and in every emergency his service was invoked. For many years he was justice of the peace and in his time few legal papers were executed in this town which did not bear his familiar signature.

The advancement of Mr. Wilder was attended by no fortuitous circumstances. His honors were merited and his position among his townsmen was the voice of mature sentiment. If not brilliant, his qualities were solid, and if he did not win the applause of his fellow-men, he enjoyed in an unusual degree their trust and confidence. At fifty-nine years of age he died suddenly May 9, 1798, but he lived

until Joseph Jewett had been advanced to his assistance in town affairs. Leaving his mantle, like the prophet of old, upon the shoulders of his successor, he closed a record full of honor and unstained with an ignoble deed.

JOSEPH JEWETT, son of Edward and Sarah Jewett, was born in Stow, May 10, 1761. The family had previously resided in Concord, where some of the older children were born and subsequently removed to Bolton. Deacon Edward Jewett, a man of superior ability and a prominent citizen of Rindge, was an older brother. After serving in the Revolution, of which mention is made in another chapter, Joseph Jewett removed to this town in 1783. He was a merchant and a farmer and for many years the leading business man in the place; but in other employments he was even more intimately identified with the town's history. In this connection his record as a citizen, and the sterling qualities of his character demand more than a passing notice. At the age of twenty-two years he entered upon the scene of his future activity and immediately the town recognized the qualities of the man. The proof of his popularity and the measure of the confidence reposed in him are witnessed by the records. He was a member of the board of selectmen fifteen years, an assessor fifteen years, town clerk eighteen years and was ten times chosen to preside over the annual March meeting.

In the midst of these accumulating honors and responsibilities he was a member of the Legislature seven years and was frequently chosen to serve on committees and render other service to the town. But no numerical statement of his official service will fairly express the measure of confidence reposed in him, or the unanimity in which he was called to these posts of duty. In military affairs he evinced a lively interest. Tradition asserts he was the first captain of the Ashburnham Light Infantry. It is certain that he

commanded a company in this town as early as 1789 and was commissioned a captain of the independent company in this town, July 12, 1791, and the following year was promoted to major. He was lieutenant-colonel in 1795 and colonel of the regiment, to which the Ashburnham companies belonged, in 1796. For many years he was a justice of the peace and was frequently called upon to act in this capacity. A rear room in the store building was styled the court-room and there many official papers were executed and many minor suits were adjudicated.

In these outlines of a life work, if other evidence failed, there would remain the inference of capacity, honesty and a measure of urbanity through which his fellow-men clearly recognized these sterling qualities.

In civil affairs Joseph Jewett is the most conspicuous personage in the town's history. He was the oracle of his time and an autocrat among his townsmen, yet his ambition was limited and he wisely exercised authority when thrust upon him. The aged who remember Mr. Jewett are united in the testimony that he was a man of rigid integrity, — that the distinguishing qualities of his mind were an intuitive perception and a sound judgment, and that he was kind and considerate to his fellow-men. He died May 3, 1846.

General Ivers Jewett, a son of Colonel Joseph Jewett, was born in this town, May 7, 1788. His record as a merchant in his native town has been stated in another chapter. In 1827 he removed to Fitchburg and was interested in several manufacturing and other enterprises. Many of the business ventures which he forwarded with enthusiasm and supported with his money and credit were unfortunate for him and his friends. General Jewett was of buoyant, ardent temperament, of attractive, personal appearance and commanding presence. He was affable, kind-hearted and generous. Popularity was his birthright and the record of his

early life is attractive and inspiriting. At thirty-four years of age he had risen from the ranks of the Ashburnham Light Infantry to the rank of a general of the State Militia. At every step in this rapid transition he had been an efficient and popular officer. He had been a successful merchant and had enlarged the business established by his father. He had been employed in town affairs and had exercised unusual sway and command among his fellow-men.

Few men at this age and in a rural community of limited population have made a more brilliant record. In mental capacity, in fitness to lead and ability to command among men and aptitude in the routine transaction of business, he resembled his father in an eminent degree. In boldness of conception, in power to persuade and in originality of project he was his superior; but in ripeness of judgment, in prudence and caution, he failed at the threshold of his father's success. Of his later life little is known. He removed to the South and there accumulated a handsome property which was swept away by the fortunes of war during the Rebellion. He died at Mobile, Alabama, April 26, 1871.

The Willards. — The brothers Deacon John and Jacob Willard removed from Harvard 1768. They were men of ability and occupied prominent positions in public affairs. Deacon Willard died July 4, 1793, having been in feeble health for several years. He was a man of most estimable character and was highly respected. Had he been sustained by health it is probable that very few in the history of the town would have been more conspicuous.

Jacob Willard was a strong, aggressive character. His services in behalf of good government during the disturbances succeeding the Revolution, and especially during the excitement attending the revolt of Daniel Shays, were instant and effective. He was a delegate to the Law and Order

Conventions held at that time, and was a firm supporter of the Government. He was a representative to the first Legislature convened under the Constitution of the State, and was four times elected subsequently. His name frequently appears in the list of town officers in another chapter, and few men have exercised a stronger or more salutary influence in town affairs. He died February 22, 1808.

SILAS WILLARD, ESQ., son of Deacon John Willard, was another prominent citizen of this town. In 1820 he was a member of the Constitutional Convention and was frequently chosen to positions of trust. For twenty-eight years he was a justice of the peace and through a long life he commanded the esteem and respect of all who knew him. He died June 14, 1855.

JOHN ADAMS, son of Captain Thomas and Lydia (Chadwick), Adams, was born, January 22, 1745. In 1766 he began a clearing on Cambridge farm, on land purchased of his father, and here he was engaged each summer in clearing land and in building a house and a barn until 1770, when he became a permanent resident of this town. That John Adams was a man of unusual vigor of body is an easy inference from the fact that he lived to the advanced age of one hundred and four years, one month and four days, and that he was a man of superior mental endowment is swiftly witnessed by the record of a prolonged and useful life. He was frequently elected assessor and selectman, and in other municipal affairs he was much employed. In an unusual degree he commanded the respect and good will of his townsmen. The fruit of a life of industry and frugality he distributed, while living, among his children, and when over ninety years of age, with a horse and light wagon, he journeyed to Harford, Susquehannah county, Pennsylvania, and back to Ashburnham. His son, James, had previously

removed to Harford and soon after his visit there he returned to that place and there resided until his death.

In the closing years of a remarkable life he passed through no twilight of mental decay and feebleness. When over one hundred years of age, in a letter to Mrs. Samuel Gibson, who during many years was a near neighbor, he writes of himself in these clear, intelligent sentences, — "My eyesight remains much as it has been for many years. I can see with glasses to read an hour or two at a time which answers in the room of hearing." Not until he had closely approached one hundred years did his hearing fail, and to the end he was able to converse with his friends, although his hearing was considerably impaired. Under date of February 7, 1846, he writes to his grandson, John Adams, as follows:

Beloved Grandson: — This morning I received the kindness of your letter, and among other things it brought the sorrowful and melancholy tidings of the death of your venerable grandmother Gibson. The news has struck me with uncommon feelings of sorrow. I presume you are not unacquainted with the friendship that has for many long years subsisted between the old lady, your grandmother, and myself, and hope you will not wonder at my being overpowered. My mind is too much disturbed to be able to write. O, what a vale of tears is this pilgrimage, — this worldly state in which we are placed! And how are we excited to sympathize with each other under the bereavements which we have sustained since I saw you last, when we look around and see what slaughter the King of Terrors has been permitted to make in our family. O, how many of our nearest relations and even bosom companions are no more; — and last of all your beloved grandmother, my friend and sister. And where now shall we look for consolation? To God and to the Gospel of his Son. There, and there alone, shall we find relief.

Love to your children and all enquiring friends, your uncle Samuel's [Gibson] family in particular. With the affections of a parent, I remain

JOHN ADAMS.

In a letter to Joel Foster, son of Samuel and grandson of Jeremiah Foster, an early settler in this town, vivid evidences of an unimpaired memory are apparent. The letter was written at Harford, February 3, 1846.

Respected Friend: — I am now with a weak and faltering hand attempting to comply with your request by writing a few lines to you, hoping this will find you and your family in health and prospering. I would inform you that my health is as good as may be expected by a person like myself under the infirmities of old age and the decay of mental faculties. Dear sir, I received your friendly letter by my son James and took much pleasure in reading the contents of it; it always gives me much pleasure to receive a letter from my Massachusetts friends, but especially from a family where I have been so agreeably acquainted as I was with your honored father and his family. It reminds me of by-gone days when we were doing town business together. If ever I took satisfaction in that business it was when I was connected with your father. True, he was not a ready writer; but his candor, his judicious and sound judgment and unprejudiced mind and extensive knowledge of the town and its affairs, qualified him for the business in which he was often engaged. I presume you remember me often at your house, and I knew something of its affairs; and truly I thought your father and his family was a worthy example, and on his farm a pattern of industry, dilligence and economy; in the town, a pillar to the community a blessing to all, an honest man, which is the noblest work of God. But his God whom he served saw fit in the midst of his days to call him hence, and shall not the Lord of heaven and earth do right? And who shall say to the Almighty, what doest thou, or why doest thou so?

I understand by your letters that in years past you have been visited by sickness and the loss of friends, even your bosom friend. In this I can feelingly sympathize with you, having been tried in the same furnace of affliction, losing the wife of my youth with whom I lived fifty-three years, every year adding strength to the tie of affection. But under these trials it becomes us to cultivate

a spirit of resignation whereby we may be enabled to say from the heart, — "Not my will, heavenly Father, but thine be done."

Dear friend, I now take the liberty to congratulate you on the happy connexion which you have formed with the once Mrs. Cobleigh, a lady with whom I have in time past had some acquaintance, and view her to be a lady of virtue, intelligence and beneficence, and with whom I wish you to enjoy a long, peaceful, joyful, prosperous and happy life.

I must write one sad piece of news, if you have not heard of it. Our coal mine, about eighteen miles from here, about a fortnight ago broke in and covered seventeen men which have not yet been found.

Give my respects to all your surviving family and enquiring friends. When I think of Ashburnham, it seems as though I was at home, being the place where I spent the prime and vigor of my days, and where there are now many of my near relations and dear friends sleeping in the dust. Peace to their ashes; and peace to the town; long may it continue to prosper; and may truth and righteousness grow and flourish.

Divine Providence, it seems, has so ordered that my body must return to dust in a strange land, that is, in a land far distant from where rest most of the ashes of my beloved relatives. Truly such would not have been my choice; but why should we be anxious about the clay when the spirit has taken its flight to God who gave it? And blessed be God for the hope which is the anchor of the soul sure and steadfast, that we in his own time shall meet and worship him and his son Jesus Christ our Redeemer, joining in a new and never-ending anthem and song of redeeming love.

And here, dear sir, I must conclude my broken epistle; and bidding you goodby, I remain your sincere friend,

JOHN ADAMS, aged one hundred and one years.

Mr. Joel Foster.

Other letters and writings, treasured by his descendants, assert the vigor of an active mind, and those written when this aged man had lived an hundred years are without a



Jerome W. Foster.

parallel. He died February 26, 1849. His descendants in this town have been and still are numerous and have ever been useful and prominent citizens.

COLONEL ENOCH WHITMORE, son of Isaac and Rebecca (Foster) Whitmore, was born in this town, September 8, 1796. He was a farmer and a manufacturer, and resided in the northwest part of the town. In early life he was an efficient officer in the militia and rapidly rose to the command of the regiment. Having held the commissions of lower rank he was commissioned colonel of the Fourth Regiment in 1829. In town affairs he was frequently called to positions of trust and was chosen to nearly all the offices within the gift of the town.

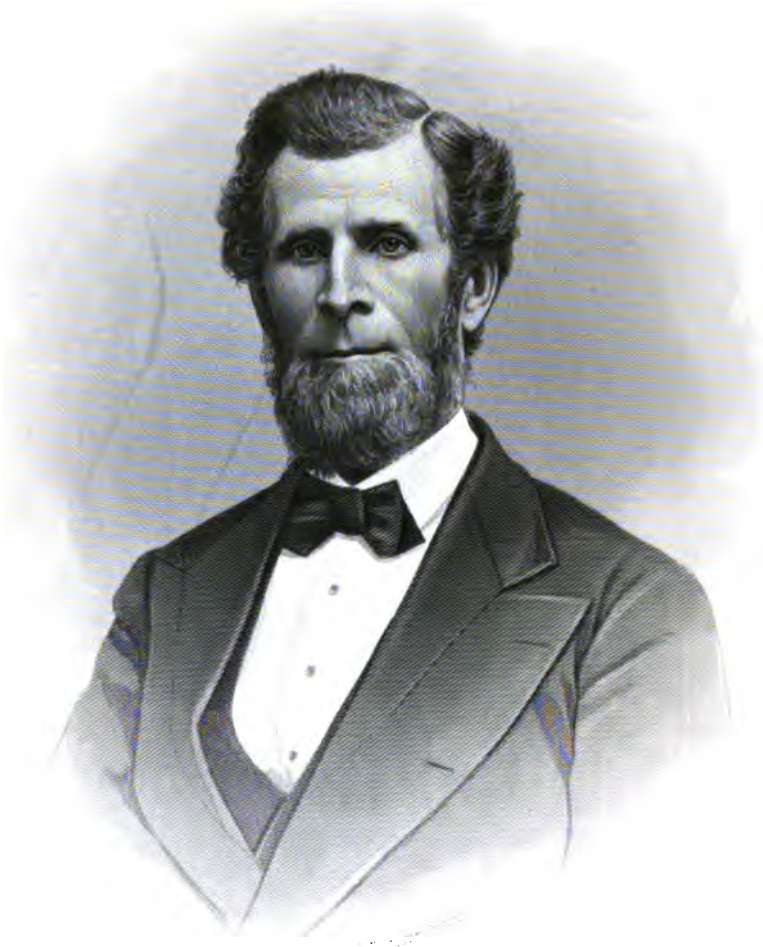
The anti-slavery cause early enlisted his sympathies and found in him an intelligent and steadfast support. With him the sentiment was not the offspring of emotional sympathy, but a living principle of human right and justice. In this and in all questions of moment, Colonel Whitmore was a radical but not a fanatic. In his view the institution of slavery was wrong, and to oppose it with the force of a persistent nature was a natural sequence. For many years he was in the minority and during an age of strong political prejudices, his political views were a bar to promotion in public service; yet his frequent election to office was a spontaneous recognition of his worth and ability. In his daily life he was above reproach, and in his social relations he was generous and affectionate. He died September 13, 1860.

JEROME W. FOSTER, ESQ., son of Joel and Dolly (Wetherbee) Foster, was born in this town, December 15, 1810. He was a great-grandson of Jeremiah Foster, one of the early settlers of this town, and inherited in an eminent degree a firmness of character and soundness of judgment which had distinguished his ancestors. Mr. Foster was a

man of varied employments and many trusts were safely confided to his efficient management. He was a civil engineer, a justice of the peace, for many years the superintendent of the post office and was frequently employed in the conduct of town affairs. He was also a trustee of Cushing Academy and a member of the committee of construction, and to his prudent and sagacious counsels the Academy is much indebted. For eighteen years he was town clerk. The records by him transcribed are expressed with precision and orderly arrangement. In every labor of an industrious life, Mr. Foster has left the impress of mature judgment and integrity of character. If he never sought the applause of his fellow-men and never suggested his own advancement he did not fail to receive the spontaneous confidence and unqualified respect of all who knew him.

Mr. Foster was reserved in manner and conservative in his habits of thought, yet he never failed in the discharge of important trusts, nor in courage to maintain his convictions of right and duty. He was prominent in all measures pertaining to the welfare of the town and on questions of moment his advice was frequently sought, and in his loyal service the best interests of the community were encouraged and advanced. He died March 23, 1871.

Hon. Ohio Whitney, son of Ohio and Mary (Bolton) Whitney, was born in Ashburnham, June 9, 1813. He was honorably connected in direct and collateral branches of his family. In early life he was an apprentice with Josiah White, a carpenter of this town, and subsequently he was foreman with Mr. Tower of Worcester, a few years. Returning to his native town at the age of twenty-six years, he was mainly employed as a contractor and builder through the earlier years of an active and useful life. He was engaged at different times in many business



Ohio Whitney Jr

enterprises, and especially those in which the prosperity of the town was more immediately involved. But he was best known and is more conspicuous in the annals of this town as a public-spirited, loyal citizen. With him the fame and growth of Ashburnham was not merely a series of sudden impulses, enlisting his energies for a day, but rather a controlling and ever renewed inspiration which neither failed under discouragement nor suffered abatement under opposing obstacles.

Every commendable enterprise has found in Mr. Whitney unfailing encouragement and to the aid of very many his willing service has been summoned. For many years he was a trustee of the Fitchburg Savings Bank and a vice-president of the Ashburnham Savings Bank, and an original director of the Ashburnham National Bank. He was president of the Worcester North Agricultural Society in 1864 and 1865, and an active member of the Fitchburg Board of Trade. His efficient service in behalf of Cushing Academy, is mentioned in another chapter.

In the affairs of the town he was much employed. His service in this direction was efficient and cheerfully rendered. Eighteen years he presided over the annual March meetings and was frequently elected to the board of selectmen and assessors and upon important committees. In 1856 he represented the town in the House of Representatives, and the following year he was a member of the Senate.

But such enumeration of public services fails to suggest the characteristics of the man. In this direction others have earned equal honors, but few have served the public with equal acceptance and efficiency. In his intercourse with his fellow-men he was affable and charitable. He bore malice to none. In the inner walks of his daily life his affections were constant and his friendships enduring. He died February 6, 1879.

PERSONAL NOTICES. — To the following notices are appended brief sketches of Governor Isaac Hill, Thomas Parkman Cushing and Hon. Milton Whitney. While they removed from this town in early life they were members of Ashburnham families; Mr. Cushing and Mr. Whitney were natives of this town.

HON. ISAAC HILL, eldest son of Isaac and Hannah (Russell) Hill, was born in Cambridge, now Arlington, April 6, 1788. The family removed to Ashburnham in 1798 and here found many ties of kindred. The mother of this distinguished man was a grand-daughter of Captain Thomas Adams who removed to this town in 1775 and a sister of Thomas Russell who removed here about 1790. The parents continued to live and died in this town, and three of the daughters became the wives of Ashburnham men. Assisting in the management of a farm and attending the primitive schools of this town a few weeks in each year, Mr. Hill remained here until December, 1802, when he was apprenticed to Joseph Cushing, the publisher of the *Farmers' Cabinet* at Amherst, New Hampshire. Mr. Cushing was a son of Captain David Cushing of this town.

Having improved every opportunity for the acquisition of knowledge, he left the employ of Mr. Cushing and went to Concord, New Hampshire, April 5, 1809, the day before he was twenty-one years of age. In the autumn preceding the *American Patriot*, a small weekly paper, had been established in Concord and at this time Mr. Hill purchased the establishment. On the eighteenth of April he became a citizen of Concord and entered upon a career enlivened by many weighty and brilliant achievements. He was an able controversial writer and for many years the vigorous editor of the New Hampshire *Patriot*. Through the columns of this paper he won a national reputation and became the

acknowledged leader of the Democratic party of the State. He was a rigid partisan, ready at all times to give and to receive vigorous blows; and if he was strong and sometimes scathing in attack he was generous and noble in all his personal relations with his fellow-men. His friendship was unfailing, he was frank, sincere and honest and his character was above reproach. It is easily within the limits of conservative estimate to assert that Isaac Hill had a more numerous personal following and firmer adherents than has fallen to the lot of any man in New Hampshire.

In the course of an active life he was called to numerous positions of trust and responsibility and in this varied service his integrity and ability were conspicuous. He was a director of several local monetary organizations; twice the clerk of the State Senate, a member of both branches of the Legislature and in 1829 he was appointed by President Jackson second comptroller of the Treasury Department. He was chosen United States senator for a full term commencing March, 1831. Having been elected governor of New Hampshire in the spring of 1836 he resigned his seat in the Senate a few months before the completion of the term. In 1837 and 1838 he was reëlected governor, and in 1840 he was appointed sub-treasurer of the United States at Boston.

THOMAS PARKMAN CUSHING was born in this town, October 7, 1787. He was the youngest of the eight children of Rev. Dr. John and Sarah (Parkman) Cushing. In lineal descent this family is not represented in this town at the present time, but the name is crystallized in the annals of Ashburnham. It will live for ages and will be read in fair characters, both in the prolonged and useful pastorate of the father and in the life and benevolence of the son. At the age of thirteen years he entered the store of an elder brother in Boston. This engagement was interrupted by the death

of his brother. In 1809 he became one of the firm of Tuckerman and Rogers, subsequently known as Tuckerman and Cushing and as Cushing and Wilkinson. In this firm he was actively engaged until he retired from business a few years previous to his death.

In an address delivered by Rev. Josiah D. Crosby at the dedication of Cushing Academy, 1875, appears the following outline of the business life of Mr. Cushing.

"The knowledge, varied, extensive and valuable, necessary to conduct such establishments successfully, is almost an education of itself. Besides, the habits of the man of business in respect to order, punctuality, observation, large generalization of facts, of close and consecutive thinking, of decisive and instant action, conjoined with honorable dealing, are of high value.

"Not unfrequently men, so trained, have stepped into the highest offices of the country, and have filled them with great profit to the people, as well as honor to themselves. Mr. Cushing seems to have applied himself with a characteristic enthusiasm to a thorough mastery of all the knowledge connected with his business, and much more than this, as will appear farther on. He went abroad for business purposes early in life, and made good use of his opportunities for general improvement. But all this was incidental to his main purpose, that is, success in business. About 1812, he formed the purpose of going to Europe to purchase goods to be put upon a bare market after the war. He was defeated in his first attempt, but finally reached England through Halifax. He remained in Europe to the close of the war. He bought his goods, and they came upon the market at a favorable time, with much advantage to himself from his venture.

"Mr. Cushing was an upright and honorable merchant of the old school. He guided his conduct by principles, and not impulses. His gains were not from speculation, dash or reckless movements, but were the results of fair trade. His morals were pure and his habits good. Though a man of great energy and persistency, yet he was a quiet, noiseless man, especially pleased with home and domestic scenes. His relief from toils of business was not in the gatherings of men, but in reading, many times till late at night. It may suffice to say, that by good conduct, untiring industry and excellent judgment, he gained for himself an ample fortune in the sense of his time, and achieved a place among the solid men of Boston."

In his youth the exterior educational advantages of Mr. Cushing were limited, but the influences of his home in childhood gave direction to his habits of thought and his manner of life. He was a student always and with an exacting employment of his leisure hours he became a master of English literature and acquired a fair knowledge of French and Spanish.

By attentive reading, by observation and through the association with persons of similar tastes, Mr. Cushing fully comprehended the enlargement of education and the progress of art and the sciences that have attended the age in which he lived. In these habits of thought and in such employments, stimulated by a thirst for knowledge which his early advantages could not satisfy, the foundations of Cushing Academy were wisely and firmly laid.

Concerning his manner in his daily life the affectionate hand of a daughter has written:

"My father had a remarkably even temper, and rarely gave way to anything like excitement in tone or look. He had a quick sense of humor and enjoyed telling and hearing

a good story. His manners were ever those of a highly bred gentleman, his voice naturally low, and uniform urbanity and courtesy distinguished him in his family as abroad. He had a fine musical ear; in younger days was a good singer and played the flute well. Even to the last year of his life, it was a delight to him to accompany the piano with his favorite instrument, and our evenings were often spent in music and singing.

"He was also fond of art, and though never in Italy, was familiar with her treasures of sculpture, architecture and painting, and possessed many fine engravings of the same."

Thomas Parkman Cushing died November 23, 1854. His will which had been written a few years, making ample provision for an institution of learning in his native town, was then announced. The wisdom and the liberality of the bequest have received willing tributes of commendation, but no one can present a clearer picture of the man or give a better interpretation of his thought than are revealed in the pages of his will.

Milton Whitney, Esq., son of Captain Silas and Hannah (Cushing) Whitney, was born in this town, October 9, 1823. In an exact use of an ambiguous term, Mr. Whitney was a self-educated man. His only educational privileges were found in the public schools in this town. and at a time before high schools and academies presented an opportunity for an advanced course of study. At an early age he entered the law office of Torrey and Woods, Esqs., of Fitchburg. He was an attentive student and was admitted to the Worcester county bar about 1845. After a brief practice in Fitchburg, he removed to Baltimore, Maryland, in 1850. There, as if awaiting his arrival, the laurels of conquest abundantly crowned his industry and earnest efforts. His ability as a lawyer and his power as an

advocate were promptly recognized, and he early secured a large and lucrative practice. In 1854 he was chosen county attorney for the county of Baltimore, and at the completion of his term in 1858, he was reëlected. In the conduct of this office, he manifested both ability and courage. He instituted a fearless and vigorous prosecution of a disorderly element of the population, and liberated the city from a reign of terror which had prevailed for many years. With unrelenting energy he brought men of high and low degree to feel the power of offended law, and gave to human life and property a security unknown in former years. In this direction his success was brilliant and substantial. Often he labored in the midst of an adverse public sentiment and wrested a verdict against crime from a sympathizing jury.

In 1860 he resigned an office in which for six years he had won unusual distinction and had secured the merited regard of his fellow-men. During the remaining years of his life he conducted many trials that are historic in that State.

The national government recognizing his ability, confided to his care several important cases. In one of these he secured a verdict of three million dollars on a claim of the Post Office Department against a delinquent contractor. This successful issue attracted considerable attention from the fact that the defendants had successfully resisted all former proceedings against them. But he was best known and won the highest distinction as a criminal lawyer. With the training he had received as a prosecuting attorney, with an intimate knowledge of criminal law and the ability to summon every energy for instant use he was as successful in defence as he had formerly been in the prosecution of persons accused of crime. He was frequently brought into competition with men of the highest legal attainments and ability as advocates, but on all occasions he sustained

himself with credit and honor. His intellect brightened in the contest and each encounter added to his fame.

In the midst of his greatest achievements his strength failed him and he sought his native town for rest and in the hope of amended health. Surrounded by friends and visited by the acquaintances of his youth, his courage triumphed over his weakness, yet he found no relief and lived only a few weeks.

Mr. Whitney was of medium height and of slender form. Sudden and nervous in his movements, he was yet affable and inviting in his manner. In his clear blue eye beamed the light of restless force and the tone of his voice gave accurate expression to the ardor of his emotions. Modest and unassuming, he seldom referred to his achievements or appeared conscious of the magnitude of his labor. He died in Ashburnham, September 3, 1875, and was buried in Baltimore, Maryland.

College Graduates. — The following list of college graduates both in number and ability is highly creditable to the town. All of them are either natives of Ashburnham or removed hither in early childhood. A few are included who did not graduate, although they substantially completed a collegiate course of study.

Asa Stearns, son of William and Lydia (Davis) Stearns, was born in Ashburnham, October 14, 1784. Graduated at Harvard University, 1807. He was a young man of promise. His early death is recorded by Rev. John Cushing: — Asa Stearns, A. B., a candidate for the gospel ministry, died December 19, 1809, Æ. 25."

Rev. Oliver Green, son of Oliver and Dorothy Hildreth Green, was born in Pepperell, July 4, 1781. Oliver Green, Sen., was a native of Pepperell and resided there until about 1782 when he removed to Ashby. The year 1799 he

resided in Westford, and in 1800 he removed to this town where he died May 15, 1834. Oliver, the son, was nineteen years of age when the family removed to Ashburnham. He graduated at Dartmouth College, 1807, and studied divinity with Rev. Dr. Samuel Austin, of Worcester. He taught at New Salem from June, 1807, to October 1808, and at Saratoga Springs, New York, from October, 1808, to September, 1809. In the autumn of the last year he removed to Sparta, New Jersey, where he was pastor of the Presbyterian church and a teacher. He died at Sparta, October 24, 1810.

Dr. Samuel Scollay, son of Grover and Rebecca (Harris) Scollay, was born in Harvard, January 21, 1781. The family removed to Ashburnham when he was a child of three or four years of age. He fully improved the public schools of this town and labored upon the farm of his father until he became of age and was at full liberty to direct his future course. He then pursued a liberal course of study and was graduated at Harvard University, 1808. After teaching a short time, he studied medicine with Dr. Samuel J. Cramer, of Charlestown, Virginia, and in the spring of 1816, he received his degree from the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. He entered upon the practice of his profession in Smithfield, Jefferson county, Virginia, now West Virginia, and there remained in active labor until his death. He was a man of superior ability, and in his profession he merited and enjoyed an excellent reputation. He acquired a substantial estate, but the memory of his spotless character and excellent qualities of mind and heart was the richer inheritance of his children. He died January 11, 1857.

Rev. Jonathan David Winchester, son of Henry and Lois (Phelps) Winchester, and a grandson of Rev. Jonathan

Winchester, was born in Ashburnham, April 28, 1781. Graduated at Middlebury College, 1809. He read theology with Rev. Holland Weeks, of Abington. After preaching a few years at Madrid, New York, he was pastor of the First Presbyterian church in Madison, Ohio, from 1826 to 1828, and of the Second Presbyterian church in that place 1830–31. He was a noted biblical student and devoted considerable time to a critical study, but a literal interpretation of the prophecies concerning the restoration of the Jews. He believed in their early return to Jerusalem with their Mosaic rights and ceremonies and that their conversion to Christianity would immediately follow. Until his death he labored assiduously to direct the attention of the Christian public to this subject, and also to convince the Jews of the general truths of Christianity. Imbued with these sentiments and improving every opportunity to give them expression, he travelled extensively in this country and also visited England where he was engaged several months in active labor. With a lofty faith and courage unabated, he was contemplating a journey to the shores of the Mediterranean, in a hope that he might render more signal service in preparing a way for the return of Israel to their ancient Jerusalem, when death overtook him. He died at Madison, Ohio, August 17, 1835.

Henry Crosby, son of Frederick and Martha (Maynard) Crosby, was born in Shrewsbury, July 18, 1785. The family removed to this town 1795. He graduated at Dartmouth College, 1810, and read for the profession of law in the State of New York, where he practiced several years. Subsequently, he removed to Middlebrook Mills, Montgomery county, Maryland, where he was engaged in teaching many years. About 1838, it is supposed, he removed to Missouri and his subsequent career is unknown.

ASA GREEN, M. D., son of Oliver and Dorothy (Hildreth) Green, was born in Ashby, February 11, 1789. He entered sophomore class of Williams College and graduated 1813. In college he held a good reputation as a scholar and was distinguished for wit and vigor of thought. He practised medicine in Lunenburg, Townsend and North Adams, and while residing in the last named place he conducted a paper for a short time. Later, he removed to New York city and published a readable work of fiction which was intended to ridicule quackery in medicine. He received his degree of Doctor of Medicine from Brown University. He died in New York, 1839.

HON. PHINEHAS RANDALL, son of Phinehas and Sarah (Crosby) Randall, was born in Ashburnham, June 5, 1787. About 1810 the family removed to Williston, Vermont, and while a resident of that place he entered the University of Vermont where he graduated in the class of 1813. He was principal of the academy in Cherry Valley, New York, for a short time and was early admitted to the bar. He was successfully engaged in the practice of his profession at Bowman's Creek, later known as Ames, in Montgomery county, New York, until 1851, when he removed to Waukesha, Wisconsin, where he died 1853.

In 1828–9, he was a member of the New York Legislature and was appointed Judge of the Court of Common Pleas for the county of Montgomery 1839. Among his children are included Hon. Alexander W. Randall, governor of Wisconsin, and Hon. Edwin M. Randall, Chief Justice of Florida. The family record is continued in the Genealogical Register.

REV. JOHN STEARNS, son of Isaac and Mary (Crosby) Stearns, was born in this town, May 11, 1791. Graduated at Union College, 1821. He studied divinity and was ordained in the ministry without charge. He was a teacher

in Washington, D. C., where he died September 10, 1824.

Rev. Merrick Augustus Jewett, D. D., youngest son of Colonel Joseph and Sarah (Woods) Jewett, was born in this town, August 26, 1798. He is remembered as a youth of excellent qualities of mind and heart, and was held in high esteem as a pupil and subsequently as a teacher in the public schools of his native town. He pursued his preparatory studies at Phillips Academy, Andover, and graduated at Dartmouth College in class of 1823. During the ensuing two or three years he assisted in the store of an elder brother who was established in Baltimore, Maryland, and while there he studied theology under the direction of Rev. Dr. John McKim Duncan. After preaching nearly eight years in Bedford county, Pennsylvania, in the summer of 1834, while journeying to St. Louis where a field of labor was inviting him, he tarried for a day at Terre Haute, Indiana. The labor of a lifetime now met him on his way. He was cordially invited to remain and preach the ensuing Sabbath. The first sermon determined the future relations between the preacher and the settlement. Terre Haute, now a city of thirty-five thousand inhabitants, was then a village of twelve hundred. At their earnest solicitation Mr. Jewett remained and preached to them through the week, and early in December, 1834, a Congregational church was organized with eleven members. With an ardent, eloquent preacher and a respected and beloved pastor, the church grew with the town. In 1841, during a series of revival meetings, Mr. Jewett was assisted by Rev. Henry Ward Beecher and over one hundred names were added to the roll of the church.

An incident connected with his early labors in Terre Haute was never forgotten by the pastor or his sympathizing flock. After he had preached a few weeks he returned to

Baltimore to attend his family on the journey to their future home. Returning they arrived at Terre Haute Christmas eve. The following morning his little son was instantly killed by the accidental discharge of a gun in the hands of a servant. If his labors were begun with tears, the sorrowful event awoke the tender sympathy of his people.

In 1860, and after a successful and able pastorate of nearly twenty-six years, Mr. Jewett resigned his charge. Without charge, though frequently engaged in religious labor, he continued a residence in that place until a few months preceding his death. While journeying in the South for the benefit of impaired health he died at Paris, Texas, April 3, 1874, aged nearly seventy-six.

In regard to the ministry of Rev. Dr. Jewett, one who knew him through all the years of his devoted labor in Terre Haute, pays him a cheerful tribute: "He was a man of great ability, bearing a high reputation as a pulpit orator and as a faithful, sympathetic pastor." "Added to his social qualities and to his strong sympathy and to his broad catholicity were his superior talents. He was an earnest preacher of the truth. He was a man of thought, a man of culture."

Rev. Josiah Davis Crosby, Union College, 1826. *Vide* Chapter VIII.

Rev. Jesse George Davis Stearns, son of Jesse and Lucinda (Davis) Stearns, was born in this town, February 24, 1812. The family removed to New Ipswich in 1829 where he pursued his preparatory studies and graduated at Amherst College, 1836. He was principal of Hopkins Academy in Hadley 1836–8, and tutor in Amherst College 1839–41. Mr. Stearns pursued a full course of theological study at Andover, 1838–9 and '41–2. He was ordained at Billerica, the home of his ancestors, May 29, 1843, and was

dismissed May 8, 1867. He was subsequently acting pastor at Zumbrota, Minnesota, from 1876 until his death which occurred November 1, 1882.

Of his pastorate in Billerica, Rev. Henry A. Hazen accords the following merited tribute: "The long and faithful pastorate of Mr. Stearns deserves especial recognition. A scholar of exceptional diligence and culture, modest and devout and active in every good word and work, he commended himself to the citizens of the town as well as to his own charge. As a teacher of a useful private school and superintendent of the schools of the town, he exerted no little influence and represented the town in the Legislature." Mr. Stearns is the author of "Meaning and Power of Baptism," and of several printed discourses and pamphlets.

Rev. William Raymond, son of Daniel and Sally (Green) Raymond, was born in Ashby, October 27, 1815. The family removed to this town in 1822. He entered Amherst College in 1834 and remained two years. Subsequently he was an academical and theological student at Oberlin College but did not graduate. Having been appointed to the Mendi Mission, Africa, under the auspices of the American Missionary Association he arrived with his wife at Freetown, Sierra Leone, January 15, 1842, after a passage of fifty days. During the voyage they experienced considerable sickness and buried their only child. They immediately returned to their native land, but again sailed for Africa, November 21, 1843. In this service he died in Africa, November 26, 1847.

Rev. William Safford Spaulding, son of Isaac and Lydia (Brown) Spaulding, was born in this town, March 4, 1809. He was a student at New Ipswich Academy and graduated at Marietta College 1839. He was principal of an academy in East Brooklyn, New York, 1841–2; of Brooklyn

Female Collegiate Institute 1843–4; of Salisbury, New Hampshire, Academy, 1845–6; of Boscawen, New Hampshire Academy, 1847–8. While residing in Salisbury he studied divinity with Rev. C. B. Tracey and was ordained in the ministry September 18, 1848. During the succeeding ten years he was engaged in teaching and in the ministry in Ohio. Commencing in 1859 he was two years acting pastor of the Congregational church in Bristol, New Hampshire, and agent of the American Tract Society from 1867 to 1870. He died in Lynn, June 10, 1884.

General Harrison C. Hobart, a distinguished lawyer and politician of Wisconsin, was born in this town, January 31, 1815. He was a son of Peter and Keziah (Hobart) Hunt and at the solicitation of his maternal relatives he assumed the name of Hobart. In his youth he served an apprenticeship of three years in a printing-office at Haverhill, New Hampshire. Through his own efforts at his trade and in teaching school he pursued a liberal course of study graduating at Dartmouth College 1842. He studied law in the office of Hon. Robert Rantoul of Boston and emigrated to the Territory of Wisconsin in 1846. Mr. Hobart entered upon the practice of his profession in Sheboygan. His talents and sterling qualities commanded immediate recognition and on the year of his arrival he was chosen to the territorial legislature from Sheboygan and Washington counties. On the organization of the State government he was the first senator from his district. In this service he was appointed chairman of the Committee on Judiciary, a most important position, and many of the early statutes of the State were drafted by him. The following year he was returned to the Assembly and was elected Speaker of the House. In the years immediately following he was twice nominated for Congress and commanded the full support of his political party which was in the minority in his district.

In 1855 he removed to Chilton in Camulet county and from that district he was elected to the Assembly in 1859. The following year he was the standard bearer of the Democratic party in the gubernatorial contest. In this canvass the town of Ashburnham was exclusively and honorably represented, the Republican and successful candidate being Hon. Alexander W. Randall whose father was a native of this town.

During these years, crowned with many and substantial honors, Mr. Hobart has been a successful lawyer and has been thoroughly identified with the prosperity of a vigorous State and the welfare of its public institutions. At the first call for troops in the Spring of 1861 he closed his office and enlisted as a private. In the organization of the Fourth Wisconsin Regiment he was commissioned captain. Having been stationed several months near Washington, in March, 1862, the regiment was ordered to New Orleans under command of General Butler. In this campaign the regiment rendered gallant service. Captain Hobart, then at Baton Rouge, was promoted August 21, 1862, to lieutenant-colonel of the Twenty-first Wisconsin Regiment. Colonel Hobart joined his regiment in Kentucky in October. The colonel being absent on account of wounds, Colonel Hobart was in command of the regiment from the time of his arrival in Kentucky. At the battle of Stone River which ensued soon after, Colonel Hobart and his command received honorable mention in the report of General Rosseau. On the evening of the memorable battle at Chickamauga, General Thomas ordered a retreat; in this movement, Colonel Hobart who had been holding a forward position was taken prisoner. With many other Union prisoners he was incarcerated in Libby prison. At the end of four months he with many others escaped through a tunnel which they had excavated under the street and a distance of sixty feet. He returned to



WESTERN BANK NOTE CO CHICAGO

his regiment and participated in the siege of Atlanta, Georgia, and in the "March to the Sea." In the closing scenes of the war he was in command of a brigade. At the request of General Sherman and dating from the capture of Atlanta, he was brevetted brigadier-general for meritorious service. On his return to civil life in 1865 General Hobart removed to Milwaukee and there renewed the practice of his profession. In 1865 he was again a candidate for governor and was defeated by Hon. Lucius Fairchild on party issues. Two years later finds him again in the Assembly where his service was conspicuous. Through several succeeding years he was a member of the city council and in 1878 its president.

His career has been brilliant and honorable. As a lawyer, an orator, a legislator and a soldier, he has won many laurels and has secured the confidence and respect of his fellow-men.

Rev. Josiah Milton Stearns, son of Jesse and Lucinda (Davis) Stearns, was born in this town, June 17, 1818. He fitted for college at New Ipswich Academy and entered Amherst College in class of 1843 but graduated at Marshall College, Pennsylvania, in class of 1844. He studied theology at Cincinnati, Ohio, and was ordained over the Congregational church at Lunenburg, Vermont, June 6, 1849. From his first charge he was dismissed February 3, 1852. After a brief pastorate at Brentwood, New Hampshire, he died in that town June 12, 1853.

Rev. Danforth Leander Eaton, son of Josiah and Mary (Reed) Eaton, was born, July 4, 1822. Entering Oberlin College he graduated in regular course 1843 and remained in the theological department of that institution the ensuing two years. During a prolonged and active career he has been a successful preacher in Michigan. (All the places named in the following paragraphs are in that

State.) He was ordained in the ministry at Farmers Creek, March 1, 1848, and the same year he was installed over the Congregational church in Oakland, where he remained until 1856. Subsequently he labored four years at Howell and at Brighton. In 1860 he was installed over the Congregational church in Lowell. From 1862 to 1866 he was engaged in business but returned to the ministry and preached in several places in the vicinity and again in Lowell from 1874 to 1878. During the past eight years, with a home in Lowell, he has supplied in Ovid, Cannon and Cannonsburg.

Mr. Eaton has been a faithful pastor and an acceptable preacher. He has ever maintained friendly and intimate relations with his charge, and with rare executive ability he has been eminently successful in building up the churches over which he has presided.

PETER THATCHER HUNT, son of Peter and Hezekiah (Hobart) Hunt, was born in Ashburnham, September 9, 1819. He graduated at Dartmouth College, 1847. He taught at Lexington and at Louisville, Kentucky, and was principal of the Glasgow Academy in the place last named. In the mean time he studied law and was admitted to practice in Louisville. Removing to Iowa he entered upon a successful practice of his profession, but failing health led him to modify the matured plans of a life work. In quest of health he visited the Pacific coast where for several years he was familiar with a life among the mines and with Indian warfare. Later he removed to Washington Territory and was there engaged in teaching and in stock-raising. During the war he was active and influential in the Union cause and a leading member of the Legislature. In 1872 he removed to Denver, Colorado, where he continues to reside and is a useful and influential citizen.

DR. CHARLES EDSON DAVIS, son of Charles and Elvira (Buss) Davis, was born in this town, May 11, 1822. He entered Dartmouth College 1846, and remained through Freshman and Sophomore years. With impaired health he pursued his professional study with Dr. Harriman of Gardner and graduated at Dartmouth Medical School, 1852. He practised successfully in Greenwich, Hardwick and Ashby. He died in this town, June 8, 1863.

OLIVER DAVIS, son of Charles and Elvira (Buss) Davis, was born in this town, August 7, 1823. He entered Dartmouth College with his brother and graduated in class of 1850. He studied medicine with Dr. Alfred Hitchcock of Fitchburg, and later he was a student at Harvard Medical School. On account of failing health he returned to his home a few weeks before the completion of the prescribed course of study. With ample preparation and ability for a life of usefulness, he died March 1, 1853.

REV. WALTER RICE, son of Silas and Almira (Corey) Rice, was born in this town, December 25, 1836. He attended the public schools of his native town and of Ashby and in early life removed to Illinois. With a view to enter the ministry, he entered Beloit College, Wisconsin, where he graduated with honor in the class of 1862. He pursued the prescribed course of study at Newton Theological Institution and graduated 1865. In July of the same year he was ordained and installed over the church in West Acton. In 1868, he became acting pastor of the church in South Royalston. Commencing in April, 1874, he was a student, in special course, at Andover Theological Seminary, and subsequently was pastor of the church in Lunenburg. Since May, 1880, Mr. Rice has been pastor of the church in Brandon, Vermont. He is in the midst of a successful

career and every year is presenting the fruit which will attend the labor of a lifetime.

Rev. Francis Joel Fairbanks, son of Emory and Eunice (Hayward) Fairbanks, was born in this town, September 8, 1835. During his preparatory studies he was a popular teacher in the public schools of this town, Lunenburg and Gardner and one term in the High school at Ashby. He entered Amherst College the last term of Freshman year and graduated in class of 1862. He pursued a course of theological study at the Theological Seminary, Princeton, New Jersey, and Union Theological Seminary, New York city. Licensed to preach May, 1863, by the Worcester North Association. Having supplied at Westminster, Vermont, during vacations while at the seminary, he was installed over the church in that place August 31, 1864, and dismissed in May, 1871. From January 1, 1872, he was acting pastor two years of the church in Ayer and acting pastor of the church in Paxton from April 1, 1874, to September 1, 1877. Since the last date he has been acting pastor of the Congregational church in West Boylston. Mr. Fairbanks is an earnest laborer in his profession. With the force of a vigorous mind and a fixed purpose he has commanded the attention and respect of his charge. His warm sympathies have sought their confidence and love, and in his daily life his public instruction is continually renewed. He has delivered a number of discourses on miscellaneous subjects, and is the author of the History of Westminster, Vermont.

Joseph Whitcomb Fairbanks, Ph. D., son of Emory and Eunice (Hayward) Fairbanks, was born in this town, March 26, 1841. He fitted for college at Williston Seminary, Easthampton, and graduated at Amherst College 1866. He was principal of the High School, South Hadley Falls,

1866–8; of Centre School, Norwalk, Connecticut, 1868–74; of Dix Street Grammar School, Worcester, 1874–5; of Worcester High School, 1875–8 and of Williston Seminary, Easthampton, 1878–84. During the past two years he has been private tutor at St. Paul, Minnesota. Mr. Fairbanks is a person of strong and massive frame, genial in manner and of commanding presence. Endowed with rare executive ability, combined with liberal culture and ripe scholarship, he is a popular and efficient instructor. The labor of his life has been attended with an unusual measure of success.

Melvin O. Adams, Esq., son of Joseph and Dolly Winship (Whitney) Adams, was born in Ashburnham, November 7, 1847. He pursued his preparatory studies in this town and at New Ipswich Appleton Academy and graduated with honors at Dartmouth College in the able class of 1871. He was sub-master of the Fitchburg High School 1871–2, and read law with Hon. Edward Avery of Boston, and Hon. Amasa Norcross of Fitchburg. He received the degree of Bachelor of Laws from Boston University 1874, and the same year he was admitted to the Suffolk county bar. Until the year 1876 he continued a legal residence in this town and was moderator of the annual March meeting 1874, '75 and '76. Mindful of the partiality and appreciative regard of his townsmen, he has responded to many invitations for addresses on miscellaneous subjects.

In his professional labors in Boston since 1874, he has been successful and has won a merited reputation for character and ability. Since 1876 he has been assistant district attorney for the district of Suffolk, and has probably been engaged in the trial of a greater number of cases than has fallen to the lot of any lawyer of his age in the State. In habit of thought he is quick and vigorous. In attack or defence his resources are at instant command, and all his

work is sustained by the weight of integrity and character. Mr. Adams is yet a young man, possessing ability and opportunity to complete a career which has been ably and firmly outlined.

DR. ERNEST P. MILLER, son of Dr. Alfred and Elsie L. (Kibling) Miller, was born in Ashburnham, January 4, 1851. He attended the public schools of this town and of Fitchburg, and graduated at Harvard University 1872, and at Harvard Medical School 1877. He immediately entered upon the practice of his profession in Fitchburg, and has been successfully employed. Since 1877, he has been Medical Examiner; in 1878 and 1883 he was elected City Physician and since 1884 he has been a member of the Board of Examining Surgeons for Pensions.

FREDERIC D. LANE, son of Samuel and Nancy H. (Eaton) Lane, was born in this town, July 4, 1849. He attended the public schools of Ashburnham and Appleton Academy at New Ipswich and graduated at Dartmouth College in class of 1878. He taught one year in the public schools of Ashby and this town and since December, 1879, he has been an instructor of mathematics and German in Cushing Academy.

FRANCIS W. LANE, son of Allen F. and Laura (Tyler) Lane, was born in this town, October 24, 1858. He pursued his studies in the public schools of his native town and at Cushing Academy, and graduated at Dartmouth College 1881. He has taught in Yonkers, New York, and in Washington, D. C. At the present time he is examiner of pensions in the Department of the Interior.

DR. HENRY E. CUSHING, son of Benjamin and Lois (Holbrook) Cushing, was born in this town, November 30, 1853. Pursued his preparatory studies at Westfield High School and graduated at Dartmouth College 1882. He

received his degree from the Chicago Medical College in March, 1884, where he had pursued a prescribed course of study. In April following he removed to Champion, Illinois, and is junior member of the firm of Howard & Cushing, physicians and surgeons.

WALTER HERBERT MARBLE, son of Warren and Mary L. (Wilker) Marble, was born in this town, September 13, 1858. He was a student in the public schools of this town and at Cushing Academy. He graduated at Dartmouth College in class of 1883. At present he is a student at the Chicago Medical College, where he will graduate in March, 1886.

In addition to the college graduates a considerable number from this town have been admitted to the learned professions. Some of them have been distinguished in their calling and none have failed to honor the town from whence they came and in which the early habits of life were formed.

REV. STEPHEN RANDALL, son of Stephen and Sarah (Fairbanks) Randall, was born in Stow, January 20, 1763. He was the eldest of ten children, seven of whom were born before the family removed to this town in 1780. He was married and resided in this town until about 1808. In 1795 he was dismissed at his request from the Congregational church in order that he might unite with the Methodists. He was a preacher in that denomination several years. He died in Sweden, New York, April 16, 1828.

REV. SAMUEL HARRIS, son of Deacon Jacob and Elizabeth (Winchester) Harris, and a grandson of Rev. Jonathan Winchester, was born in this town, August 18, 1774. He read theology with Rev. Dr. Seth Payson of Rindge, and with Rev. Samuel Worcester of Fitchburg, and was licensed to preach 1803. After preaching a short time at Alstead and New Boston, New Hampshire, he was ordained and

installed over the Congregational church in Windham, New Hampshire, October 9, 1805. In consequence of loss of voice, he was dismissed at his request in December, 1826. In 1830 and 1831 he preached in Dublin, New Hampshire, but his voice again failed and he returned to Windham, where he died September 5, 1848. He was a faithful pastor and a useful man, and was held in high esteem by all who knew him.

Rev. Elijah Willard, son of Deacon John and Sarah (Willard) Willard, was born in this town, April 19, 1782. At nineteen years of age he entered the Methodist ministry and was then received into the New England Conference. For several years he was assigned to stations in New Hampshire, Vermont and Canada. Subsequently, he filled several pastorates in this State, but for many years he was retained in the Conference in superannuated relation. He was an attentive student of the Scriptures and eminently biblical in the matter and the language of his public instruction. It is the unanimous testimony of all who knew him, that he was a sincere, earnest preacher and a most worthy and exemplary man. He died at Saugus, September 5, 1852.

Dr. Abel Wilder, son of Samuel and Dorothy (Carter) Wilder, was born in this town, June 24, 1786. He was a man of marked ability, and for many years a distinguished citizen and eminent physician of Blackstone, where he was engaged in active practice from 1823 to 1864. A few weeks before his death he removed to New York where he died 1864.

Simeon Sanderson, Esq., son of Moses and Mary Proctor Sanderson, was born, September 24, 1790. After attending the public schools of this town and several terms at the academies in this vicinity, he read law with Mr. Dustan of Westminster, and entered upon the practice of

his profession in that place. He was laborious in his habits, attentive to the interests of his clients, and many important cases were entrusted to his care. He died December 3, 1841.

Dr. Charles Woodward Wilder, son of Caleb and Elizabeth (Woodward) Wilder, and a grandson of Colonel Caleb Wilder of Lancaster, was born in this town, December 30, 1790. He graduated at Dartmouth Medical School in class of 1817, and successfully practised his profession many years in Templeton. About 1845 he removed to Fitchburg. He ably forwarded the construction of the Fitchburg and Worcester railroad and became the first president of the corporation. In this position he was succeeded by Colonel Ivers Phillips, also a native of Ashburnham. Dr. Wilder subsequently removed to Leominster where he died February 12, 1851. He was a skilful physician and an influential citizen. He was frequently elected to positions of trust and represented the town of Leominster in the Legislature.

Rev. Calvin Cummings, son of Abraham and Mary (Bourne) Cummings, was born in this town, October 10, 1792. The family removed to Ashburnham from Attleborough a year or two previous to this date. Without doubt he enjoyed the limited school privileges of the community in which he lived and no information of an advanced course of study has been secured. His home was in the north part of the town and near the families of the early Methodists. He became identified with them at an early age. About 1820, he was licensed to preach, and since that date he did not permanently reside in this town. It is currently stated that he became a presiding elder and continued in the ministry many years, but a record of his labors has not been found. He died near Boston about 1855.

Rev. Humphrey Harris, son of William and Betsey Harris, was born in Concord, March 28, 1795. The family removed to this town before the close of the past century. With few educational advantages he began to preach Methodism about 1828, and the following year he was admitted to the New England Conference and stationed one year at Gill. At the close of this appointment he joined the Wesleyan Conference and preached a few years in Vermont and one year in Rhode Island. About 1835 he returned to this town where he was a farmer and occasionally a preacher until his death. Subsequently he removed to Winchendon and soon after was killed by a falling tree in 1847.

Rev. William Whitney, son of William and Lucy (Brooks) Whitney, was born in Ashburnham, July 22, 1809. He attended the public schools of this town and the academy in South Reading. At the age of twenty-one years he travelled by stage, canal and steamboat to the West. At that time it required six weeks to reach the western part of Illinois. He continued his studies at Rockspring Seminary, now the Shurtleff College, of Alton, Illinois; and at Granville Seminary, now Denison University, and at Oberlin, Ohio. He was licensed to preach in 1833, but soon entered upon a continued and useful career as a teacher. He was an instructor four years in Granville, six in Lancaster and eleven in other places in Ohio. In 1865, Mr. Whitney was appointed financial agent of Denison University and in 1870 treasurer of the Baptist Educational Society. He has been an officer in several other religious and educational organizations, and in each position, to which he has been summoned, he has been efficient and faithful in the discharge of duty. He resides at Granville, Ohio.

Rev. Stephen Cushing, son of Stephen and Eliza (Goodale) Cushing, was born in Boston, March 13, 1813. In the spring of 1830 he removed with the family to this town and resided here until active labor in the ministry influenced a residence in other places. He was a student at the Wesleyan Academy at Wilbraham nearly three years and subsequently he pursued a partial course of study at the Wesleyan University at Middletown, Connecticut. He was received in the New England Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in June, 1833, and for the ensuing twenty-four years he completed with ability and faithfulness various pastoral charges. Answering the demands of impaired health he rested a year, and from 1858 to 1880 he supplied the pulpit in many churches. His pastorates include Marlboro', Winchendon, Princeton, Hubbardston, Southbridge, East Cambridge, Newburyport, Ipswich, Lynn, Wilbraham, Dorchester, Holliston, Nahant, Stoneham, Maplewood, Reading and Needham in this State, and Eastford and Stafford in Connecticut.

Mr. Cushing has made several valuable contributions to the general and local history of Methodism in this country. He preached the semi-centennial discourse in this town which is mentioned in another chapter, and in 1883 at the annual session of the Conference in Boston he delivered an address reviewing the progress of the church during the half century since his admission to the ministry. For many years he has efficiently served the Conference as secretary and trustee and since 1881 he has been its treasurer. In these varied and responsible employments he has enjoyed the merited approbation of his associates.

Rev. Andrew Jaquith, son of Benjamin and Rebecca (Spaulding) Jaquith, was born in Ashby, March 7, 1816. He resided several years in the north part of this town. He

attended the Oneida Institute three years beginning in 1832, and several years subsequently he pursued a course of theological study and was ordained and installed over the Congregational church in Langdon, New Hampshire, in 1860. He was devoted to the duties and labors of his profession and was held in high esteem by his parish. He died August 27, 1864.

Dr. George Washington Scollay, son of Grover and Sally (Stowell) Scollay, was born in this town, April 13, 1819. In the spring of 1839 he went to St. Louis, Missouri, and in the autumn of that year he entered an institution of learning in Hillsboro', Illinois, where he remained two years and subsequently he pursued the prescribed course of study in the Medical Department of Kemper College, St. Louis, and graduated 1843. The succeeding ten years he was engaged in the practice of his profession in Shelbyville, Illinois, and for the past twenty-five years he has resided in Washington, D. C., and the city of New York.

Rev. Ari Raymond, son of Daniel and Sally (Green) Raymond, was born in Ashby, May 7, 1820, but removed to this town in infancy. He prepared for the ministry and has preached and resided at Oro, Bell Ewart and other places in Canada.

Dr. Ariel Ivers Cummings, son of Ariel and Malison (Currier) Cummings, was born in this town, June 11, 1823. He pursued the study of medicine at Dartmouth Medical College and graduated at the University of the city of New York, 1851. After a brief practice in Acworth, New Hampshire, Dr. Cummings removed to Roxbury where he continued in active and successful practice until 1862. In the mean time he was a member of the school committee and occupied other positions of trust. Having made a study of law in the office of Hon. William Gaston, he received the

degree of Doctor of Laws from Harvard University 1858, but he adhered to the practice of his chosen profession. The same year Dartmouth College conferred the honorary degree of Master of Arts.

In the summer of 1862 Dr. Cummings was among the volunteer surgeons who went to the relief of the army under General McClellan. Later he was sent from Fortress Monroe to Portsmouth Grove, Rhode Island, with two ship loads of sick and wounded soldiers. From this service he was summoned to Boston to fill the appointment of surgeon of the Forty-second Regiment. This regiment left Camp Meigs November 21, 1862, and on the second of December three companies with Colonel Isaac S. Burrill, Surgeon Cummings and other officers embarked on a transport for New Orleans, where they arrived on the sixteenth. Before the arrival of the remaining companies of the regiment, Colonel Burrill and his small command was ordered to the support of Galveston and there after a gallant defence, which forms a thrilling incident of the war, the command became prisoners of war. Dr. Cummings was confined within the rebel lines but was allowed to attend his fellow prisoners and to visit the sick among the residents of the surrounding country. He died at Hempstead, Texas, September 9, 1863.

Professor Levi W. Russell, son of Ward and Mary A. (Russell) Russell, was born in this town, February 15, 1831. His early education was obtained in the public schools of his native town, of which he was subsequently a popular teacher in several districts. He continued his advanced studies at the Appleton Academy in New Ipswich, and was later under the able tuition of Prof. William Russell, in his excellent schools at Reed's Ferry, New Hampshire, and at Lancaster. For more than twenty-five years Mr. Russell has been an efficient instructor. His first

continuous field in the calling of his choice was in the High Street Grammar School of Fitchburg, where he labored seven years. After a successful management of the Central Grammar School of Watertown, early in 1869 he became principal of the Bridgman School of Providence, Rhode Island. During his able management, this school has graduated over one thousand pupils and every year has contributed to the popularity and reputation of his administration. In addition to his uninterrupted employment as an instructor, Mr. Russell has delivered many addresses at teachers' institutes and at other educational assemblies.

Dr. Leonard Woods, son of Samuel and Mary (Caldwell) Woods, was born in Ashburnham, July 5, 1840. Graduated at Harvard Medical School 1868, and practised at Malden until 1873, when he removed to Pittsford, Vermont, where he died December 11, 1885. A man of unblemished character and fair abilities, he won the merited confidence and esteem of the community in which he lived and labored.

Dr. Emily Metcalf, a daughter of Joel F. and Martha (Davis) Metcalf, was born in Ashburnham, May 25, 1841. Miss Metcalf pursued a full course of professional study and graduated at the Boston University School of Medicine in 1877. In the same year she removed to Waltham where she early secured a large and lucrative practice. For several years, in addition to professional labor in Waltham, Dr. Metcalf was a member of the Faculty of Lasell Seminary at Auburndale. While holding this position, which was interrupted by an increasing business at home, she visited the school almost daily and delivered frequent lectures upon subjects allied to her profession. In practice Dr. Metcalf has adhered to the theories of the Eclectic School of Medicine. She has been eminently successful and has commanded the respect and confidence of her patrons.

DR. CHARLES H. RICE, son of Silas and Almira (Corey) Rice, was born in Ashburnham, February 19, 1843. In his childhood the family removed to Ashby. He attended the public schools of that town and subsequently graduated at Appleton Academy, New Ipswich, 1863. Dr. Rice studied medicine with Dr. Emerson of Ashby and graduated at Dartmouth Medical College 1865, and at Harvard Medical School 1866. He immediately located in Fitchburg where he continues in an active and successful practice of his profession.

DR. CHARLES A. BEMIS, son of Albert T. and Sarah (Hastings) Bemis, was born in this town, September 22, 1843. He was educated in the public schools of Ashburnham and pursued the prescribed course of professional study, graduating at Jefferson Medical College 1872. He practised in Spencer two years and removed to Medway in 1874, where he remains in active and successful practice. Dr. Bemis is vice-president of the Thurbur Medical Association composed of the resident allopathic physicians in that vicinity and is examining surgeon for pensions. For several years he has been a member of the school committee of Medway and an efficient member of the Board of Health.

CHAPTER XXI.

MISCELLANEOUS.

PAUPERISM.— TITHINGMEN.— TOWN HOUSE. — UNION HALL.—POST OFFICES.— LIBRARIES.— FIRST NATIONAL BANK.— SAVINGS BANK.— FARMERS' CLUB. —POUNDS. — BOUNTIES ON WILD ANIMALS. — THIEF DETECTING SOCIETY. — BRASS BAND. — POWDER HOUSE. — POPULATION.

PAUPERISM. — Very meagre, and in some instances no reference to the public support of the poor can be found in the early history of the towns in this vicinity. Aged and infirm people were not invited to the settlements and seldom removed from the older towns unless attended by children who were able to provide for them a comfortable support. Only the industrious husbandman, the mechanic or the man of business was welcomed among the sturdy toilers of a new settlement. If any came presenting doubtful credentials in regard to self-support, he was summarily warned out and sometimes attended by the constable to the place from whence he came, or to the town in which he had previously gained a legal settlement. The feeble-minded were often suffered to wander from door to door, obtaining food from the open hand of charity, savored with words of kindness and sympathy. The attentive care of the poor by the neighborhood prevented not a few from becoming a public charge, which accounts, in a measure, for the meagre references to this subject in the early records.

If there is manliness in a measure of selfishness which leads one to cherish and protect his own, there is something higher and nobler in a thoughtful charity that lends a helping hand to want and suffering. In all their relations to one another our fathers have left a living example of neighborly kindness and liberal charity. The misfortunes of accident, damage by fire or the loss of domestic animals, were followed by substantial expressions of sympathy. Not infrequently these friendly offerings were made by those who were more impoverished by a single act of charity than had been the recipient by the loss which had suggested the generous measure of reparation. If a farmer was sick at seed-time, his fields were planted and the labor of the season was performed by the cheerful hand of attentive neighbors. If he recovered from sickness at the close of harvest, he found his crop secured and his granaries rejoicing in the gathered product of his farm. In every misfortune, in every bereavement, in every time of need, with eyes suffused with the dews of thankfulness, he could behold the thoughtful deeds of a charitable neighborhood.

In extreme cases of poverty, the officers of the town for many years met each application for public support in a temporary and individual manner. The methods adopted were as numerous as the needy individuals. Sometimes the selectmen provided a cow for the family, sometimes firewood and a stipulated amount of provision. Sometimes the abatement of taxes or the payment of house rent was deemed sufficient, but always there was extended an invitation to the needy to do something for themselves. These customs and methods lead to the conclusion, which is verified by the facts, that the first permanent paupers were those who had grown old or infirm in the town upon which they had become dependent.

If the early inhabitants of this town frowned on laziness and prodigal husbandry, if to charity they added a sermon on industry and self-reliance, there is no evidence or tradition that they closed "their hand to their brother, to their poor and to their needy in the land." The present system of public charities, fostered by the Commonwealth, has sprung from their humble yet faithful attention to the wants of the poor. Many times, unrestrained by law, they exhibited more wisdom and humanity than can now be done under a complicated code of laws that restrains in rigid lines and clothes in the uniform of a system every form of procedure.

The first record of any public charity in the town of Ashburnham occurred in 1778: "To see if the town will do any thing for Timothy Johnson's wife, who is in needy curcumstances." "Voted to help Timothy Johnson's wife so that she may be comfortable." The husband was in the army and the wife with three children, the eldest not five years of age, was entitled to receive aid with a mutual feeling that the town remained the debtor.

About the same date the selectmen were instructed "to supply Josiah Dodge with fire wood as they think proper," and in 1786 the town granted "8 cords of wood and 4 bushels of Corn and Rie to be given to the widow Ruth Conant annually." She was the aged widow of Ebenezer Conant, who died October 24, 1784. In 1792 the town "voted to pay for the cow that was bought for Daniel Clark's use," and in the same kine spirit the town refused to reconsider this generous action when it was proposed at a subsequent meeting. In one final and comprehensive manner the town disposed of the next case that arose: "Voted to vendue the negro boy, brought to the selectmen for the town to maintain, to some suitable man, the lowest bidder, and to give him for maintaining said boy one seventh part of the sum

yearly untill the whole is paid; said boy was struck off to Mr. Jno. Trask at twenty-four pounds: — Voted also that the selectmen should bind said boy to said Trask to serve him untill he arrives to the age of 21 years."

The widow of Andrew Windrow, or Winter, as the name was written in later years, was occasionally assisted at her home for several years. Later the town provided support for her in the family of a neighbor where she died March 14, 1814, aged ninety-one years. The town also provided board for the eldest daughter of Dr. Peter Brooks in the family of her brother for many years, and assumed the control and support of the younger children of Daniel Clark during their childhood.

In the considerate care of others, whose names we need not mention, the town gradually adopted a system of either providing a home for the unfortunate with their kindred and friends or in cases where this course was impossible, of contracting their support to the lowest bidder. Upon the vendue list for many years appears the name of Ann Hill, a colored woman, who died November 5, 1821, aged seventy-six years. This person was generally called Black Ann. It is tradition that she was once a slave and that she came to this town with the family of Rev. Jonathan Winchester. If a slave at that time, she was soon manumitted.

For many years a man Franklin and wife Susan resided here and in their old age were supported by the town. It is also asserted that they were brought to this town as slaves. On this point tradition needs support. It is easier to infer that the negroes in the early settlements were slaves than it is to establish the fact.

The traditions of this town are not agreed either upon the condition of these people or, if slaves, to whom they belonged. In fact, the most careful inquiry generally has

been met by the honest answer, "I do not know." The opinion of the majority has been respected. It is not certain that there ever was a slave within the town of Ashburnham.

Commencing with 1821 and continuing until the town purchased a farm and established an almshouse, the support of all the poor was awarded to the lowest bidder. In these contracts, sometimes for one year and sometimes for a longer period, it was stipulated that the contractor "should board, lodge, clothe, doctor and nurse them in a comfortable manner and that the children should attend school in the district where they were supported." In the records, the person who contracted or undertook to support the poor was invariably styled the "undertaker." Such employment of an undertaker for the poor was innocent and proper, but some other term would have been less suggestive.

The purchase of a farm was under consideration several years. Committees were frequently appointed and conflicting recommendations followed in rapid succession. A report made in 1832 is the most noticeable of any on the subject:

The Committee, appointed to take into consideration the best method of supporting the Poor, have attended to that subject and beg leave to report: As we shall always have the poor with us it is our duty in the cause of supporting that ill-fated class to adopt that method which will at the same time conduce to their comfort and make our burden lighter. In accordance with these views we have inquired of towns which have in former years let them out separately or the whole to one individual; in this mode of supporting their poor they found their bill of expense to increase yearly; in consequence of which they purchased a farm and their expenses are now one-third less and the poor better supported and much happier. We therefore recommend that after the expiration of the time for which Mr. Woods took them, to

purchase a farm and hire a suitable man with a wife to take the oversight of the poor and carry on the farm, which we beg leave respectfully to submit.

NATHANIEL PIERCE,
SILAS WILLARD,
EBENEZER FROST,
JOSEPH JEWETT,
ASAHEL COREY.

The subject continued to be debated with various degrees of interest until March, 1839. At this time Ohio Whitney, Joseph F. Burges and Elias Lane were chosen "to buy a farm for the use of the Poor." Without delay in 1839 they purchased the farm which is still owned and occupied by the town. Here many have found a temporary home in an hour of adversity and others, less fortunate, have here passed the remnant of their earthly career. Under the direction of a board of Overseers of the Poor the management of the institution has tendered a comfortable support to the homeless and the general system for the maintenance of the poor during these years has afforded temporary assistance to others who were not removed to the almshouse. The annual expense attending the farm with an average of ten inmates for the past ten years has been $1067.71 and the average annual expense incurred in temporary relief to families and individuals, not at the almshouse, has been $713.65.

TITHINGMEN were annually chosen from the organization of the town until within the memory of many now living. The manners and customs of the times are reflected in these proceedings. The qualification of a tithingman was a solemn presence and great acerbity of countenance. Only the most sedate and dignified were considered eligible to the office. It was a position of honor and this officer, armed with the tithing pole, commanded the respect even if he failed to win

the admiration of his townsmen. In character and ability Tristram Cheney and John Kiblinger, the first tithingmen of Ashburnham, had no superiors in the town. If in the light of the law these officers were slightly inferior to a constable, both in the care exercised in their selection and in the consideration shown them, they were among the dignitaries of the town. They were a sort of ecclesiastical police who were enjoined by law and by custom to secure a proper observance of the Sabbath and to restrain the youth from frivolous conduct during the services and the intermission.

With the refining influences and a higher standard of personal deportment that attended the progress of years the duties of the tithingmen were less exacting and they were accredited with a depreciated measure of importance and respect. Early in the present century the standard of qualification was not always maintained. The increasing amount of travel and teaming through this town was prompt to take advantage of a waning sentiment on the subject, until open violation of the Sabbath laws was of frequent occurrence. In 1814, for the purpose of creating a more exacting public sentiment, several conventions, numerously attended by the clergy and laity, were held in Rindge, Phillipston and other towns in this vicinity. The effect of this discussion was immediate and quite extended. In the autumn of the same year and immediately following the convention at Phillipston the town of Ashburnham "chose Joshua Smith, Esq., William J. Lawrence, Captain Silas Willard, Captain John Willard, Captain Moses Lawrence, Thomas Hobart and John Caldwell a committee to ade and assist the tythingmen and other officers in putting the Laws respecting the Lords Day in force."

Thus reënforced and encouraged by an awakened public sentiment the officers arrested many persons who were

violating the law, and detained them until Monday morning. The following year the town chose nine tithingmen and several towns in this vicinity made choice of an equal or even a greater number. Previous to this date only two had been elected in any one year. In public sentiment a reaction soon followed. The next year the town was satisfied with the election of the conventional number. In 1827 only one was chosen, while in 1829 there was a complacent vote "not to choose tythingmen" and the following year, with a cumulative purpose, it was voted "not to have any tythingmen this year." Again in 1831 and each year until 1836 these officers were chosen in accordance with the laws of the State, but there is no record during the later years that the office was generally accepted or the oath administered.

Stocks, for the temporary confinement of any who defied at once the commands of the constable and the solemn proprieties of the Sabbath, were built in this town at an early date. As the records contain no reference to them, it is probable they were constructed by voluntary effort. Sixty years ago, with their rusty lock and aged visage, these relics of a former generation were to be seen in the hearse house on the old common.

The Town House is a substantial building of modest pretensions. It continues to meet the requirements of the town in a reasonable manner and probably it will answer the demands of another generation without any unusual expense or the provocation of any serious expression of discontent. In its history it vividly reflects both the religion and the passions of a former generation. Originally built and occupied as a house of worship it is an agreeable duty to surround its existence on the old common with the memories of the pastorate of Mr. Cushing and an era of peaceful and profitable occupancy. With the organization of the first parish

and the loss of the counsels of an able and faithful minister, the trouble between the new parish and the town, concerning their respective property rights in the old meeting-house, immediately began. Strife is never so contagious nor contention so speedily fanned into flame, as when war is waged between an ecclesiastical and a secular organization. The conditions suggested a conflict and the invitation was openly accepted. True, the members of the parish were also citizens of the town and in this dual character were contending with themselves, but this brought the parties into closer contact and provoked a more animated conflict.

Having completed their new house of worship, the first parish in 1836 abandoned the old meeting-house on the hill. The town, alleging control of the building, at once began to debate the expediency of removing it to the village and converting it into a town house. The parish, continuing to assert a property right in it, stoutly resisted and holding the key to the building, and practically the key to the situation, rallied at each town meeting and successfully opposed any encroachment upon their real or assumed rights in the premises. The town called many meetings to determine what was expedient to be done, and as many times the members of the parish, reënforced by a few in full sympathy with them, secured a vote that it was decidedly expedient not to do anything.

In the mean time the parish turned a cold shoulder to the town by the removal of the stove from the old to the new meeting-house and, consequently, in cold weather town meetings were assembled in the school-house in the first district and in the churches in the village. After a prolonged contention, the issues involved were happily compromised in December, 1837, by the adoption on the same day by the town and by the parish of concurrent votes, " that

the parish would relinquish their right in the old meeting-house, provided the town will indemnify the parish from all claims from the pew-holders."

The town, having secured the full possession of the building, immediately took home the bone of contention and, having declared a peace with the parish, was free to institute an internal strife among themselves over its location.

At an early day a committee of five, to whom the subject had been referred, presented a written report offering the town a choice of five locations; two being near the school-house in the first district, two near the armory and one west of the Catholic church. Consistent with its former record, the town finally decided that it was not satisfied with any of the sites proposed. Another meeting was immediately called, at which ten other persons were joined to the existing committee of five. The united wisdom of the revised committee was reflected in three reports; eight in favor of a lot on land of Charles Hastings, Jr., and substantially the site finally selected; four recommended a site on land of Samuel Barrett, near and probably west of the Armory, and the remaining three desired the town to select a lot on land of William J. Lawrence, near the store of Parker Brothers.

The situation was critical. Through many straits the town gained possession of the old meeting-house and the question of its removal and location was not easily decided. The accumulating recommendations of the committee now presented a choice of seven lots on which a ballot was taken, "and the spot offered by Mr. Barrett having the highest number of votes was decided to be the spot on which to build." Consistent with its previous record on this subject, and without an adjournment, the town immediately proceeded to reconsider this vote and then decided to locate the building on land of Charles Hastings, Jr. The records briefly narrate these decisive proceedings:

Sixty-two voted in favor of said spot and it was declared to be a vote. Mr. Hastings proposes to sell his spot for $200; the town house to stand 30 feet west of the west end of his house, the front to range with the front of the Methodist Meeting House and the front window in the west end of his house, to be sufficient land to set the house upon with ten feet of land all round the house to lie as commons land.

Voted that the building committee be authorized to take a deed of Mrs. Charles Hastings and make payment of the same.

Voted that the building committee be instructed to let out the town house in two separate lots; one of the wood and one of the stone work.

Voted that the committee be instructed to build the town house of the present size of the old meeting house.

At a meeting held the following month, January, 1838, with the customary honors of war, the town fired a parting salute at the receding question in an additional vote: "that the committee for building a town house be authorized to build the same on either part of the lot purchased of Charles Hastings, Jr."

These contested preliminaries being ended, the voice of discord is succeeded by the less strident noise of the saw and the more conclusive arguments of the hammer. The old meeting-house is dismembered, the odor of sanctity is brushed from its timbers and in a new place it again assumes its old form but not its original character. The ancient edifice with its porches, its square, pen-like pews, its lofty pulpit and sounding-board was no more.

The town house was a new structure erected from the material of the old but retaining none of its sacred memories and hallowed associations. Degraded from the sacred uses to which it had been solemnly dedicated, a spirit of discord and contending passions continued to hover around it. Contention arose with John Hastings who built the basement,

and again with Artemas Maynard who erected the fence on a contract with the town. Legal proceedings were instituted and the disputes were transferred from their familiar locality to the courts.

In due course of time the law-suits were adjusted and every one concerned was invited to the reflection that the general affairs of the town house had been quite thoroughly debated and permanently settled. Only one item of business remained and to that outstanding question the attention of the town was promptly directed, whereupon it was "voted that the selectmen take charge of the key to the town house."

UNION HALL. — This building in the South Village was built in 1860 and the cost was met by voluntary subscriptions and the proceeds of several public entertainments. Commencing with January, 1860, several meetings were held which made known a strong public sentiment in favor of the erection of such a building for the convenience of that portion of the town. Under the favorable auspices of unanimity, the preliminary arrangements were quickly matured. John M. Pratt, Jonathan H. Piper and James L. Worcester were chosen trustees, and, subsequently, Reuben Puffer was chosen to succeed Mr. Worcester. With this exception, the board of trust remains unchanged to the present time. The store recently finished is rented, but the remainder of the building is reserved for the use of the community and affords convenient accommodation for social and religious meetings.

POST OFFICES. — In the early administration of the postal system of the United States, post offices were located at accessible points and on the lines of established mail-routes without much regard to the centre of population. Frequently, small villages were granted postal facilities at the

expense of more populous communities less fortunately situated. In 1811 the first post office was established in this town. At that date there were 2403 post offices in the whole country and mails were transported in coaches, in sulkies and on horseback about one hundred thousand miles. These figures are exceedingly small when brought into comparison with the statistics of the present time, but they constitute a part of the record of the expansion and development of the United States and the multiplied operations of all the departments of Government.

A post office had been established several years previously in Westminster, and from that office were received the weekly papers and the few letters which were sent through the mails. Joseph Jewett was the first postmaster in this town, his appointment being dated January 23, 1811. The office was accommodated in the store, long known as the Jewett store, a building now owned and occupied by Charles Hastings. The next postmaster was Samuel Woods who was appointed May 22, 1826, and he was succeeded by Dr. Otis Abercrombie, November 5, 1827. Mr. Woods was also a merchant in the same store and Dr. Abercrombie lived near by, and the office during their service was not removed. Dr. Abercrombie was not long a resident of this town and his official career was still more limited. Within a few weeks, December 19, 1827, Samuel Barrett was appointed and the office for the first time was removed. This appointment was made for political reasons, but he made an excellent officer and was continued in the position many years. Mr. Barrett for a time had the office in the Deacon Lawrence house, more recently occupied by the late Ivers White and, subsequently, removed it to a building which stood many years at the head of Central street, a few yards west of the residence of Mrs. J. W. Foster.

The next postmaster was Ivers White who was appointed June 19, 1851; he was succeeded on political considerations, June 1, 1853, by Israel W. Knight, who removed the office into the hotel. In these quarters it did not long remain.

December 15, following, Samuel V. Whitney was appointed his successor, who removed the office to a store on the site of the residence of George C. Winchester. Soon after the present post office was built and Mr. Whitney was the first postmaster in the building where the office, through several appointments, has remained to the present time.

The next postmaster was Charles Winchester whose commission was dated July 7, 1856. He was succeeded, March 21, 1861, as an inspiration of political sagacity, by George C. Winchester, who held the position over fifteen years. Mrs. Ermina L. Evans was appointed August 7, 1876, and Elliot A. Maynard, the present incumbent, was commissioned January 2, 1886. For many years, commencing in 1856, the office was ably conducted by Jerome W. Foster, Esq.

A portion of the early records of the Post Office Department at Washington were burned many years ago, and as a continuous record is inaccessible, no effort has been made to procure the statistics of this office. The revenue for the year ending July 30, 1883, was $1750.71. The mail was brought to Ashburnham Centre many years on the Worcester stage, owned by Charles Stearns and later by Ivers White and others. Upon the carriage of the mails by the railroads, the Cheshire Railroad contracted with the department to carry the mail between the depot and Ashburnham Centre, from July, 1849, to July, 1853, at ninety-four dollars per annum. For the ensuing ten years the service was performed by C. Marshall at one hundred dollars per annum. He was succeeded after a few months as contractor by George J.

Metcalf. From December 15, 1863, to April 30, 1867, the contractor was John L. Cook, at one hundred and ten dollars per annum, who was succeeded by Clarence M. Proctor, who continued in contract until the carriage of the mail was assumed by the Ashburnham Railroad, receiving for the last part of the time two hundred dollars per annum.

The Ashburnham Depot Post Office, with John M. Frost, postmaster, was established May 11, 1850, and was accommodated in the depot for several years. The second postmaster was Lewis Howard who was appointed April 13, 1857, and he was succeeded October 25, 1860, by John B. Day. The next postmaster was David E. Poland, appointed August 22, 1864. Upon the appointment of Wilbur F. Whitney, Esq., April 1, 1872, he removed the office to the building in which it still remains. Miss Amelia J. Cushing was appointed March 5, 1875, and Miss Susan C. Rice, the present incumbent, May 16, 1881. The revenue for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1883, was $395.67.

The Burrageville Post Office was established December 12, 1854. This office was kept in the Burrage store until about the time William F. Burrage removed from this town. Later, it has been kept in the depot. The succession of postmasters and date of appointment is as follows: Charles W. Burrage, December 12, 1854; John W. Fay, October 3, 1859; William F. Burrage, June 24, 1861; Jonas W. Dwinnell, October 29, 1867; George L. Beals, Jr., December 15, 1882. At the time of the appointment of Mr. Beals, the name of the office was changed to North Ashburnham. The revenue for the fiscal year, ending June 30, 1883, was $69.18.

The Ashburnham Library was organized in 1793. It received no aid from the town and was dependent upon voluntary effort. A well preserved book of records affords

an intelligent account of its proceedings. The rights or shares were sold at two dollars. The whole number issued was fifty-five, but by the sale and transfer of shares the whole number of members during the existence of the organization was ninety-eight. In addition to the sums received from the sale of shares and from fines, a tax was frequently assessed on the membership for the purchase of books. A small sum was also received from an occasional sale of books which had become familiar to all or were considered undesirable. Among the books sold are found, "Robinson Crusoe," "Child's Friend," "Devout Exercises," "Seraphic Shepherd," "Jockey Club," "Herlian Miscellany," "Pilgrim's Progress," "Fool of Quality," and others familiar to the times. At an auction sale in 1806, Rev. Mr. Cushing purchased "Cardephoria" in two volumes for $1.10; for the sum of twenty-one cents Caleb Ward transferred "Saunders' Travels" to North Ashburnham; the "Duke of Marlborough" was sold for twenty-one cents, while the "Vicar of Wakefield" was struck off at sixty-eight cents; both were safely lodged in the house of Captain J. Willard; Cyrus Fairbanks invested thirty-nine cents in "Religious Courtship," and on the payment of forty-three cents "Family Instructor" was carried to the home of Elisha White.

After an existence of forty years, in 1833 the organization was dissolved by mutual consent. The books were divided into fifty-five parcels and distributed by lot among the owners of the shares. The sale of the empty book-case to pay any outstanding debt and a vote to donate the balance if any to the library of the Sabbath-school are the closing entries in the records. The several librarians were Rev. John Cushing, Joseph Jewett, Abraham Lowe, David Cushing, William J. Lawrence, Ivers Jewett, Doddridge Cushing and Samuel Woods. The constitution, which with slight changes re-

mained in force during the existence of the organization, was probably drafted by Mr. Cushing. It is a plain, comprehensive instrument, and in a provision that the penalty for "every drop from a candle shall be one penny for every shilling in the value of the book," it suggests the changes which have marked the progress of years.

About 1850 the Ladies' Library Association was organized and a limited collection of books of approved character was continued by renewals until 1884. The volumes then remaining in possession of the organization were donated to the town and became the nucleus of the present Public Library. Upon the acceptance of the donation the town appropriated three hundred and fifty dollars for new books, and an increasing interest in the library has been manifested. The present number of volumes is 1700. In 1885 and again in 1886 the town has donated three hundred dollars to sustain and enlarge the library. The Executive Committee are George W. Eddy, George M. Munroe, Nathan Eaton, Mary S. Barrett and Mortimer M. Stowe.

The First National Bank of Ashburnham was organized April 3, 1873, and commenced business in August following. The capital stock is fifty thousand dollars. From the first an able and prudent management has secured the merited confidence of the community. Giving preference to local business the bank has been of essential service to the business interests of the town. The original board of directors were Dr. A. T. Lowe of Boston, George W. Eddy, George H. Barrett, Walter R. Adams, George C. Winchester, Addison A. Walker, John L. Cummings, Ohio Whitney, Ivers Adams and Elbridge Stimson. The four first named are members of the present board with whom has been joined at several annual elections George F. Stevens, Moses P. Greenwood, Marshall Wetherbee, Wilbur F. Whitney and

Walter O. Parker. For several years George C. Winchester was president, George W. Eddy cashier and George F. Stevens teller. Since 1879 Mr. Eddy has been president and Mr. Stevens cashier.

THE ASHBURNHAM SAVINGS BANK was organized 1871 and closed business 1879. The institution was conducted prudently and for the accommodation of home deposits. During the depression in business which cast a gloom over this town in 1878 and 1879 the deposits were withdrawn to such an extent and the future was attended with so much uncertainty that the loans were collected and every depositor paid in full. The bank was continued eight years and reasonable dividends were paid on all deposits. The presidents of the institution were George C. Winchester and Captain Addison A. Walker; George W. Eddy was the only treasurer; the secretaries were Colonel George H. Barrett and George F. Stevens.

THE FARMERS' AND MECHANICS' CLUB was organized in January, 1878. During the winter season the club has held frequent meetings for conference and a discussion of subjects connected with their calling. These meetings are well sustained and have been of mutual interest and benefit to the members. Under the auspices and direction of this organization, the town has held eight agricultural fairs and all of them have been successful. The presidents of the club include Francis A. Whitney, two years; Walter R. Adams, two years; Charles E. Woodward, three years, and George C. Foster. The secretaries have been Walter H. Laws, Charles T. Litch, George F. Corey, Charles E. Woodward, Walter B. Whitney and Francis A. Whitney. Walter O. Parker has been treasurer from the beginning. The organization holds property and money to the amount of about five hundred dollars.

POUNDS. — The restraint of domestic animals and an equitable adjustment of the rights of the public and of individuals were fruitful topics of legislation in every new settlement. The annals of Ashburnham inform us that, for fifty-four years, or until 1818, the town annually "voted to let swine run at large this year," and in faithful recognition of the rights of the public, a goodly number of hog reeves were chosen each year to see that vagrant swine were ringed and yoked according to law. Pounds for the confinement of domestic animals are a precautionary measure. Like some of our criminal laws, their chief use is in the prevention of offences. The prudent citizens of Ashburnham favored the erection of a pound more as a threat or warning against trespass than in the expectancy of its frequent use. The first pound was built in 1772. Twenty-one years later a new one was erected in the southwest corner of the common, which was thoroughly repaired in 1819. At this date an unsightly heap of ruins remains as a witness to the truth of this narrative, and vividly reminding the present generation of an ancient prophecy, "For the stone shall cry out of the wall, and the beam out of the timber shall answer it."

BOUNTY ON WILD ANIMALS. — Proximity to the mountains, the great number of ponds and streams and the broad expanse of the original forest continued to attract wild animals to this vicinity after their disappearance from less inviting haunts. The ravages of wolves upon the sheepfold and the frequent depredation of other tenants of the forest are the theme of the early traditions of the town. In the petition of Joshua Henshaw, recited in another chapter, is the declaration that the value of young cattle, sheep and swine annually destroyed was greater than the province tax. A few of the many measures adopted for the extermination of wild animals are transcribed.

1779. "Voted to give as a bounty thirty pounds for every wolf that shall be killed in this town before the last day of May next."

Thirty pounds at that time in depreciated paper money would be a fair compensation for ten days' labor and the bounty was subsequently increased to compensate for the continued depreciation of the currency.

1818. "Voted to give a bounty on Wild Cats, viz: one dollar for Old Cats and fifty cents for Kittens.

"Voted that the selectmen be the committee for examining the Cats, when brought in for bounty."

The selectmen are not complimented in this use of capital letters, yet they could view the record and consider its import with greater complacency than could the cats. This bounty was continued several years and either because a scarcity of the wild cats made their capture more difficult or their increasing numbers made them more troublesome, the bounty was increased to twice the amount first proposed. Letters of marque and reprisal were issued for one year on foxes, and at intervals of time extending to a comparatively recent date, the town has offered a bounty on crows. This bounty was first proposed in 1789:

Voted to give each person one shilling and six pence for each old crow killed in this town and nine pence for a young one. The birds heads to be brought to the selectmen and their bills cut off.

All the foregoing were town bounties. Fifty years ago the Commonwealth authorized the selectmen of towns to pay a bounty on foxes. During the early existence of the law, about one fox a week was the death rate in the persecuted family of Reynard. Within two years the accomplished hunters of Ashburnham laid at the feet of the selectmen ninety-six foxes and with their trophies carried away as many half dollars.

THE THIEF DETECTING SOCIETY is a mutual organization for home protection. It is a lock upon the stable door and its chief office is the prevention of crime. It is a living presence armed with law, and a perpetual terror to every class of thieves and kleptomaniacs. The organization is voluntary and the enthusiasm in which it has been maintained is spontaneous and perennial. Except the annual meetings for the choice of officers and an occasional supper at the public inn the only history connected with the organization is found in its origin. More than fifty years ago, in a single night, a horse was stolen from Colonel Charles Barrett, a chaise from Rev. George Goodyear, and when the returns were all in, it was found that a harness had been purloined from Samuel Woods. It is probable that the thieves had previously obtained possession of a whip, and if human slavery had been perpetuated in Ashburnham, it is easy to presume that they would have stolen a coachman. The stolen horse was valuable, the chaise was the accustomed vehicle of communication between the pastor and his flock, and the harness had aided the successful issue of the robbery. This compound felony and trespass upon the rights and property of the inhabitants occurred in 1834, and immediately the Thief Detecting Society was organized. The by-laws exact a modest admission fee and in this wise provision the organization renews its youth and continues a vigorous existence. The society lost its first case, for those early thieves escaped detection; but as a preventive measure, the history of the town asserts its success. The illustrated hand-bills issued by the society is a significant proclamation to thieves and a special terror to those on horseback.

THE SOUTH ASHBURNHAM MILITARY BAND was organized in 1885. There are twenty members including a few who reside in Ashburnham Centre. Thomas Edwards is leader,

and the band, containing several experienced musicians, has become an efficient organization. At different times for nearly fifty years, there have been several good bands and orchestras at the Centre, but death, removal from town and the retired list have usurped the names of the skilful players of a former and a more musical period.



THE POWDER HOUSE, with a serene yet solemn countenance, overlooks the village of Ashburnham. Through three generations it has been a trustworthy custodian of the inflammable material committed for safe keeping to its gloomy recesses. It was erected and has been maintained by the unanimous voice of the town. Concerning its erection, only a single reference is found in the records: "Voted to build a powder house of brick, and set it so as to convene Col. Jewett for the safe keeping of his powder, he giving ten dollars extraordinary towards building the house." "Chose Esq. Wilder, Col. Jewett and Capt. Cushing a committee to build said house." It was built in 1798. Mr. Jewett died before the building was erected and Lieutenant John Gates was chosen to supply the vacancy. As a work of art the

powder house suggests no enthusiasm, and as an object of utility its loss could be easily supplied. But the village has become accustomed to its presence, and to all it remains a familiar object in the landscape. If removed the local associations of many years would be broken and the vision would rest upon the hillside unsatisfied. Like many objects and landmarks familiar to our daily lives or to the recollections of youth, the powder house is not so fully prized in its continued presence as it would be deplored in its loss.

The accompanying illustration will lend assurance to the absent sons and daughters of Ashburnham that the old powder house still remains on the hillside and in the presence of the soldiers they will read the prophecy that it will not be left without defence. The soldiers seen in the accompanying engraving are Lieutenant Charles H. White, Sergeants Freeman and Willard, Corporals Howe and Young and Private Whipple of Company E.

POPULATION.— The population of this town reached the highest point in 1855. The loss shown by the census of 1880 was only temporary, and was occasioned by the absence of many mechanics during the suspension of business at the chair factory in the central village. The following record of the population of Ashburnham includes the colonial census of 1776, the United States census for every tenth year since 1790, and State census for every tenth year since 1855.

1776	551	1855	2211
1790	951	1860	2108
1800	994	1865	2153
1810	1036	1870	2172
1820	1230	1875	2141
1830	1402	1880	1666
1840	1652	1885	2058
1850	1875		

CHAPTER XXII.

MORTUARY RECORDS.

THE EARLY BURIALS. — DEATH OF MR. HASKELL. — GERMANS BURIED ELSEWHERE. — THE OLD AND THE NEW CEMETERIES. — SUICIDES. — ACCIDENTAL DEATHS. — RECORD OF DEATHS OF AGED PERSONS. — LIST OF AGED PERSONS NOW LIVING IN ASHBURNHAM.

THE CHURCHYARD. — The proprietors of Dorchester Canada reserved ten acres on "the hill with a very fair prospect" for a common and a cemetery. In this measure they found many precedents in the proceedings of the older towns. Yet seldom was a site selected with equal unanimity of sentiment or at an earlier date in the progress of a settlement. It was presumed that the common set apart in 1736 was to include a burying-ground, and the dead were buried in the northwest portion of it without the intervention or permission of the authorities. In 1760 the proprietors gave Mr. Winchester permission to occupy and improve the whole square, "provided he doth not obstruct nor hinder the burying of the dead; the burying-place being in that lot." With the exception of this incidental reference, it was many years before the proprietors, or the town by any official act, recognized the existence of a cemetery within the township. It was unnecessary. It was an edict of the age more potent than any formal proceeding, that the dead should repose beneath the shadow of the meeting-house.

It is safe to consider the cemetery coeval with the common and that both were established by a single proceeding. The

name of the occupant of the first grave and the date of the burial are not recorded, but we have the statement of Mr. Cushing that a Mr. Haskell from Lancaster was accidentally shot in this town, and that an aged woman was drowned and both buried in the old cemetery at an early date. Mr. Winchester was buried 1767, and Mr. Cushing was of the opinion that no other grown persons had been buried here at the time of his settlement. The family registers record the death of several children previous to that date, but do not present any evidence of the death of any additional adults.

A few of the Germans who died in the early history of the town were buried near the school-house in the second district and there are two family burial-grounds, but the vast congregation of the dead are sleeping in the old churchyard or in the new cemetery.

From the first the original burying-ground has remained under the control of the town and frequent votes for the repair of the fences and the removal of stone and brush attest a reasonable stewardship of a sacred trust. As in other ancient cemeteries, which were not allotted at the beginning, the ties of kindred and family associations are the only suggestion of an orderly arrangement, while the varied sculpture and inscription assert the age of the several memorials. The crowded condition and irregular arrangement of the graves admit of little future adornment, but the yard will not be neglected. Here repose the remains of the early settlers and of many of the fathers and mothers who have succeeded them. The ground is hallowed. Pious care will renew the fading inscriptions and repair the waste of time as long as good works and well-ordered lives command the dutiful reverence of mankind.

The new cemetery, controlled by an association, was opened 1858. Eight years later an additional tract of land

was joined to the original purchase. The present area is six and five-eighths acres. The association has made liberal expenditure in opening avenues and in improving the natural surface of the ground. Lots have been sold at a reasonable price and in number sufficient to leave the association free of debt. The remains of many have been removed from the old cemetery and nearly all who have died in this town for the past twenty-five years have been buried here. The cemetery is conveniently located and pleasantly situated, and it contains many chaste and substantial works of monumental art.

MORTUARY RECORD. — The altitude and excellent drainage of the town have been conducive to health and longevity. Malarial disease and seasons of prevailing sickness have been of rare occurrence. Previous to 1768 no complete record of deaths has been found, but the number was small. The hardy settlers were in the prime and strength of manhood. The feeble and the aged did not come hither in the early progress of the settlement.

From his ordination until his death, Mr. Cushing made an accurate record of deaths in this town, and from 1839 until the present time, the town record of deaths is complete. A record kept a few years by Doddridge Cushing and one by Rev. George Perkins are continuous from 1823 until 1835. The remaining time from 1835 to 1839 is supplied from partial entries by the town clerk and from records of the sexton. It is believed that the following aggregate is approximately correct.

NUMBER OF DEATHS IN THE TOWN OF ASHBURNHAM FROM 1736 TO JANUARY 1, 1886.

Previous to January 1, 1770					8
From January, 1770,	to	January,	1780		74
" "	1780,	"	1790		92
" "	1790,	"	1800		105

From	January,	1800,	to January,	1810	101
"	"	1810,	"	1820	118
"	"	1820,	"	1830	156
"	"	1830,	"	1840	228
"	"	1840,	"	1850	342
"	"	1850,	"	1860	298
"	"	1860,	"	1870	438
"	"	1870,	"	1880	398
"	"	1880,	"	1886	218
				Total	2576

It is probable there were more than eight deaths in the first period of time, but the number was certainly small and greater accuracy would not materially affect the aggregate. In 1769 and 1772 there were only two deaths each year, and only six in either of the years 1811 and 1812. The canker rash prevailed in 1794 and the number of deaths was twenty, a number not exceeded until 1823. In 1848 consumption and dysentery swell the register to sixty-three. The greatest number of deaths in any year was sixty-six in 1863 when diphtheria made desolate many homes. The smallest number within the past forty years was twenty-three in 1851, and the average for the past ten years has been thirty-seven. Since 1800 the average annual death rate has been $15\frac{1}{20}$ for each 1000 of population. The aggregate number of deaths since the settlement of the town equalled the population of the town for the first time in 1874, and since that date the congregation of the dead has exceeded the number of the living.

Suicides. — There was a time when the suicide was denied the rites of Christian burial and his memory was a reproach to his kindred. Perhaps in every instance, certainly in nearly all, the taint of insanity has been manifested in the families in which self-destruction has occurred. With the

gift of life, Infinite Wisdom bestows an instinct of self-preservation. Intuitively life shrinks from danger and is swift in the defence of its existence. While reason hold its sway over the minds of men, it is attended by a living impulse of self-protection. The number who have fallen by the cruelty of their own hands is fourteen.

1812. May 24. Alice Stearns, daughter of Isaac Stearns, aged 15 years.
1815. Feb. 14. Ezra Hastings, aged 43 years.
1816. Aug. 22. Mary (Winship) Brooks, wife of Jonathan Brooks, aged about 45 years.
1817. June 11. Samuel Wilder, son of Caleb Wilder, aged 15 years.
1820. June 14. Sarah (Whitney) Wilder, wife of Caleb Wilder, aged 39 years.
1825. June 24. Elias Blodget, aged 42 years.
1854. May 3. Levi Corey, aged 47 years.
1854. Nov. 26. Jonas Rice, aged 62 years.
1856. Nov. 4. Catherine Brown, wife of George Brown, aged 43 years.
1862. April 19. John W. Wallace, aged 53 years.
1862. June 29. Miss Jerusha Dunham, aged 43 years.
1869. June 3. John Cain, aged 43 years.
1873. Nov. 25. Francis Sackett, aged 55 years.
1876. May 27. August Jagodynsky, aged 41 years.

Deaths by Accident. — While there is no statement in this paragraph not sustained by some authentic record, it is believed that the following list of casualties is substantially complete. The death of Mr. Haskell, who was accidentally shot, and of the aged woman who was drowned, have been mentioned in another connection.

1775. Jan. 3. Samuel Stone, aged 24 years. Left his home December 30, was bewildered in a violent storm and was not found and brought home until January 2.
1776. Feb. 8. Sarah Phelps Russell, infant daughter of Moses Russell, "burned to death;" aged 7 months.

1795. Aug. 9. Azubah Gibbs, infant daughter of Joseph Gibbs, scalded; aged 18 months.

1804. March 8. John Shaw, aged about 55. Found dead on the snow; "having lost his way and no doubt greatly fatigued, he laid down and died."

1814. March 8. Jacob Constantine, aged 61. "In consequence of his horse going off a high bridge in Ashby." The accident occurred March 4; he lived four days. "He fell eleven feet and eight inches. His wife was with him in the sleigh but not seriously injured."

1815. Aug. 12. Betsey Corey, daughter of Stephen Corey, drowned in a tan vat; aged 4 years.

1816. March 25. Caleb Wilder drowned while temporarily absent in Douglas; aged 75 years. He was a brother of Samuel Wilder, Esq. He had been insane several years.

1819. March 28. Nancy Rice, daughter of Levi Rice, aged 3 years, "scalded by a swallow of hot tea; she lived about seven hours."

1823. March 11. Edwin Eaton, aged about 18 years. "His death was occasioned by a part of a head of herds-grass being taken into the wind-pipe."

1824. July 21. Beulah Mossman, daughter of Matthias Mossman, aged 44 years. Thrown from a carriage in Fitchburg.

1825. —— Oliver Marble, aged 69 years; drowned in Lyndeboro, N. H.

1825. Sept. 1. Ebenezer Jones, aged 36 years.

1825. Sept. 1. Jonathan Wood, aged 52 years.

These men were suffocated in a well.

The house of Mr. Jones was burned. After the fire he descended the well to recover a bucket. The only persons

near by at the time were a boy and Mr. Wood, a neighbor. Mr. Wood heard Mr. Jones fall into the water, and in going to his relief he also fell. An alarm was given by the boy and after several hours the bodies were recovered.

1828. Aug. 8. A son of Rev. Thomas Skelton, aged 7 years. He fell upon the ground and received a fatal wound from a small stub which entered his side.

1829. March 20. Joseph Gibbs, aged 73, was killed by a falling tree.

1835. Sept. 5. William Locke, aged 37 years, fell from a pear tree, near the house now of Nahum Wood.

1837. April 10. Levi Warren Wetherbee, son of Josiah Wetherbee, of Rindge, aged 17 years. Killed in the mill of Eliphalet Eddy, now of Robert W. McIntire.

1839. July 18. William Gipson, aged about 50 years, was killed instantly by a falling tree.

1847. June 10. Austin Whitney, aged 15 years, son of Merrick Whitney, drowned in a small pond near the Poor Farm.

1850. May 30. George Eaton, aged 25 years, killed on railroad.

1852. July 22. William Whitney, aged 67; kicked by a colt.

1857. Aug. 8. Elliot Ward, aged 17 years, son of Benjamin Ward, drowned in Ward pond.

1858. Aug. 29. Patrick Collecten, aged 35, killed by accidental discharge of a gun.

1859. May 8. John Wilson, aged 80, by a fall from a building.

1860. Sept. 13. Col. Enoch Whitmore died from injuries received from a block of wood thrown from a saw in his mill. Aged 64 years.

1861. Oct. 8. Amos K. Avery, aged 30, died from injuries received from a block thrown from a saw in Winchester's chair shop.

1861. Nov. 17. William D. Stearns, aged 33 years, from wounds received by accidental discharge of a gun.

1863. June 4. Frank A. Day, aged 7 years, son of John B. Day, kicked by a horse.

1867. Feb. 25. Bradford Britton, aged 48 years, killed in the mill of Horace W. Houstan.

1868. Sept. 12. Mary E. Wood, aged 13 years, killed by an accidental discharge of a gun. She was a visitor in the family of George Howard.

1871. Sept. 1. Paul Sibley, aged 35 years, killed by an earth slide while repairing the dam or bridge above the chair factory in the Central village.

1873. May 16. Mrs. Sarah (Mower) Jewell, widow of Dexter Jewell, aged 65 years. Fracture of skull by being thrown from a carriage.

1876. May 19. Mary and Sarah Riley were drowned while visiting at Fall River.

1877. Sept. 2. Oscar M. Lane, aged 26 years, killed on railroad.

1877. Dec. 9. Reuben H. Lawrence, aged 33 years. Brakeman on Fitchburg R. R., was thrown from a train and instantly killed.

1879. March 31. Josiah Thomas, colored, aged 57 years, perished while riding to his home in North Ashburnham over a winter road across "Stearns' Meadow." His horse also perished in the cold and storm.

1883. Sept. 2. Hosea D. Wallace, aged 47 years, was killed by a passing train at a railroad crossing in Nashua. In the carriage was another man who was also killed.

1884. May 13. Willie H. Raymond, aged 18 years, son of Henry M. Raymond, and Frank R. Hoar, aged 17 years, son of John Hoar, were drowned in Lake Naukeag. The bodies were recovered the following day.

LONGEVITY. — In proportion to the population, a large number of the inhabitants of Ashburnham have lived to an advanced age. The following record of the deaths of persons, eighty or more years of age, includes none who were not residents of this town, although a few died in other places while temporarily residing with their kindred.

DATE OF DEATH.		AGE.
Jan. 15, 1778	Mr. Tyler	83
Jan. 19, 1779	Widow Davis	84
Jan. 2, 1783	John Oberlock	80
Oct. 24, 1784	Ebenezer Conant	86
July 9, 1785	Mrs. Coddington	85
Oct. 17, 1785	Dea. Moses Foster	94
March 8, 1788	Abigail Willard, widow of Henry Willard	80
March 20, 1789	Widow Rebecca Davis	83
Nov. 9, 1789	Ephraim Stone	85
May 8, 1790	Mrs. Bush	90
Oct. 14, 1794	Henry Hall	83
Nov. 28, 1794	Widow Gates	about 82
Nov. 19, 1797	Ruth (Pierce) Conant, widow of Ebenezer Conant	85
Feb. 20, 1798	Lydia Brooks, widow of Amos Brooks	80
March 26, 1802	Elizabeth (Sanders) Adams, wife of Thomas Adams	—
Nov. 9, 1802	Thomas Adams	89
March 16, 1803	Sarah (Prentice) Brigham, widow of Colonel Timothy Brigham, formerly of Southboro'	88
April 20, 1805	Joseph Whitmore	86
July 10, 1805	Mary (Marion) Whitmore, widow of Joseph Whitmore	87
Aug. 29, 1807	Elisha Coolidge	87
Sept. 11, 1807	Sarah Salter, widow of Samuel Salter	83
May 7, 1809	Elizabeth Haven, widow of Jonathan Haven	80
Dec. 21, 1811	Mary (Jones) Taylor, wife of Jonathan Taylor	80
March 21, 1812	Hannah (Barron) Spaulding, widow of James Spaulding	85

DATE OF DEATH.		AGE.
Oct.	21, 1813	Jonathan Taylor 84
Oct.	23, 1813	Simon Rodamel 93
March	14, 1814	Mary Winter, widow of Andrew Winter 91
Jan.	13, 1886	Peter Hunt 86
June	2, 1816	Miss Merriam 86
Nov.	3, 1816	Jacob Wilker 85
Feb.	20, 1817	Widow Hannah Shaw about 83
Oct.	23, 1818	Hezekiah Corey 82
Oct.	22, 1821	Joseph Steele 85
Dec.	31, 1822	Jesse Ellis 80
Dec.	17, 1823	Susannah (Allen) Rice, widow of Zebulon Rice . . 91
Nov.	29, 1824	Sarah (Leighton) Hunt, widow of Peter Hunt . . . 93
Dec.	29, 1824	Enos Jones 83
March	12, 1825	Sarah (Parkman) Cushing, widow of Rev. John Cushing 82
March	2, 1826	Joshua Smith, Esq. 81
Sept.	13, 1827	Susan Franklin (colored) 90
Nov.	9, 1827	Isaac Brooks —
Feb.	27, 1828	Hannah (Whitcomb) Pollard, widow of William Pollard 90
Jan.	1, 1829	Joseph Burgess 84
Sept.	11, 1830	Widow Burgess 88
Sept.	16, 1830	Amos Davis 80
Feb.	7, 1831	Moses Tottingham 84
Feb.	11, 1831	Miriam (Hill) Ellis, widow of Jesse Ellis 80
March	22, 1831	Rebecca (Foster) Ward, widow of Caleb Ward . . 81
Dec.	— 1832	Rhoda (Randall) Willard, widow of Jacob Willard . —
Aug.	12, 1833	Solomon Manning 80
May	15, 1834	Oliver Green 81
May	18, 1834	Persis Blodgett 80
July	15, 1834	John Hall 81
Oct.	23, 1834	Dr. Abraham Lowe 80
Nov.	20, 1834	Sarah (Willard) Willard, widow of Dea. John Willard 88
April	10, 1836	Mr. Reed —
April	26, 1836	Jonas Rice 82
Oct.	17, 1836	Hannah (Adams) Jones, widow of Enos Jones . . . 93
——	— 1837	Persis (Whitmore) Winchester, widow of Jonathan Winchester 82
March	22, 1837	Reuben Rice 80
Oct.	31, 1839	Susanna (Woods) Foster, widow of Samuel Foster . 89
Sept.	22, 1840	Lemuel Stimson 82
Aug.	30, 1840	Rebecca (Foster) Whitmore, wife of Isaac Whitmore 80
June	11, 1841	Thomas Gibson 86
June	23, 1841	Eunice (Brooks) Metcalf, widow of Ezekiel S. Metcalf 82

DATE OF DEATH.		AGE.
June	27, 1841	Olive Manning, widow of Solomon Manning . . . 83
July	5, 1841	David Clark 83
Jan.	12, 1842	David Wallis 81
May	1, 1842	Susannah (Todd) Stowell, widow of John Stowell . 81
Sept.	21, 1842	Miss Rachel Gates 84
Nov.	3, 1842	Mary (Proctor) Sanderson, widow of Moses Sanderson 83
March	20, 1843	Tamezin (Felton) Benjamin, widow of Daniel Benjamin 84
April	14, 1843	Joshua Fletcher 83
May	29, 1843	Susannah Hobart, widow of Shebuel Hobart . . . 84
July	29, 1843	Widow Taylor 83
Nov.	1, 1843	Timothy Crehore 89
Dec.	23, 1843	Jabez Marble 87
Jan.	14, 1844	Keziah (Wesson) Hobart, widow of Daniel Hobart . 94
March	25, 1844	Copia (Rice) Ward, widow of John Ward 98
Feb.	20, 1845	Dorothy (Hildreth) Green, widow of Oliver Green . 88
Dec.	22, 1845	Mary (Salter) Marble, widow of Jabez Marble . . . 83
March	26, 1846	Deborah (Hunt) White, widow of Elisha White . . 83
May	3, 1846	Joseph Jewett, Esq. 85
July	22, 1846	Zilpah (Townsend) Rice, widow of Jonas Rice . . . 89
Oct.	22, 1846	John Bowman 88
Nov.	2, 1846	Dorothy (Garfield) Hunt, widow of Sherebiah Hunt . 83
Dec.	3, 1846	William Ward 90
Dec.	9, 1846	Jonathan Samson 87
March	20, 1847	Margaret (Metcalf) Townsend, widow of Reuben Townsend 84
May	2, 1847	Isaac Whitmore 93
Dec.	27, 1847	Phebe (Wright) Hawkes, widow of Benjamin Hawkes 84
April	4, 1849	Joseph Merriam 86
Oct.	20, 1849	Relief Gibson, widow of Thomas Gibson 85
July	30, 1850	Susannah (Rice) Samson, widow of Jonathan Samson 91
Nov.	28, 1850	Charles Hastings 90
Feb.	2, 1851	George R. Cushing, Esq. 82
April	29, 1851	Martha (Maynard) Crosby, widow of Frederick Crosby 82
Oct.	25, 1851	Nathan Taylor 80
Feb.	23, 1852	Sarah (Woods) Jewett, widow of Joseph Jewett, Esq. 89
March	25, 1852	Deborah (Chittenden) Barrell, wife of William Barrell 82
June	18, 1852	Cyrus Fairbanks 100
Jan.	17, 1853	Edmund Jones 83
July	20, 1854	Simon Willard 84
Aug.	12, 1854	Margaret (Adams) Russell, widow of Thomas Russell 84
June	14, 1855	Silas Willard, Esq. 86

DATE OF DEATH.		AGE.
Jan.	13, 1856	Hepsebeth (Smith) Pierce, widow of Amos Pierce . . 94
Jan.	27, 1856	William Gates 80
June	6, 1856	Achsah (Pollard) Bemis, widow of Stephen Bemis . 85
Nov.	9, 1857	Sally Angier 89
May	8, 1859	John Wilson 80
Nov.	4, 1859	Eliakim Russell 89
Jan.	29, 1860	Nancy (Cotting) Willard, widow of Simon Willard . 90
Feb.	23, 1860	Jonas Corey 84
Aug.	14, 1860	William Barrell 84
April	5, 1861	Elizabeth (Cotting) Brooks, widow of Jacob Brooks . 84
Nov.	3, 1861	Thomas Howard 82
Feb.	18, 1862	Elizabeth (Griffin) Lawrence, widow of Dea. Wm. J. Lawrence 87
Sept.	3, 1862	Dr. Nathaniel Pierce 83
June	21, 1863	Sarah (Converse) Russell, widow of Eliakim Russell . 87
April	14, 1863	Lois (Billings) Burgess, widow of Joseph F. Burgess 85
Sept.	13, 1863	Polly Brood 84
Sept.	5, 1864	Sarah Gilbert 82
Aug.	2, 1864	Jonas Davis 83
April	15, 1865	Anna Howard 80
June	10, 1865	Daniel Benjamin 82
Jan.	12, 1866	Doddridge Cushing 86
Jan.	12, 1866	Sally (Lane) Kibling, widow of John Kibling . . . 82
Dec.	11, 1867	Lucy (Townsend) Corey, widow of Hezekiah Corey . 99
Dec.	15, 1867	Esther Aldrich 84
May	16, 1868	Samuel Keyes 83
Aug.	4, 1868	Jesse Holbrook 83
Sept.	22, 1868	Walter Russell Adams 85
Nov.	18, 1868	Joanna (Adams) Corey, widow of Stephen Corey . . 93
Feb.	15, 1869	Lucy (Cotting) Davis, widow of Josiah Davis . . . 84
Dec.	2, 1869	Jonathan Samson 82
March	30, 1870	Ohio Whitney 81
May	14, 1870	Ellen Corcoran 80
June	20, 1870	Moses Stowell 80
July	17, 1870	Jesse Ellis 81
Oct.	24, 1870	Jonathan Winchester 83
Nov.	14, 1870	Hannah (Wilder) Howard, widow of Thomas Howard 87
Oct.	24, 1871	Josiah White 89
June	12, 1871	Mary (Cushing) Rand, wife of Rev. Asa Rand . . . 89
Aug.	18, 1871	Sarah (Billings) McIntire, widow of Daniel McIntire 85
Aug.	24, 1871	Rev. Asa Rand 88
Oct.	21, 1871	John Caldwell 89

DATE OF DEATH.		AGE.
March 29, 1872	John Thompson	86
April 1, 1872	Samuel Brooks	80
July 22, 1872	Stephen Cushing	88
Aug. 12, 1872	Mary (Reed) Eaton, widow of Josiah Eaton	82
Aug. 22, 1872	Betsey Hosley	80
Dec. 2, 1872	William Richardson	81
Jan. 3, 1873	Rhoda (Marble) Taylor, widow of Nathan Taylor	89
Feb. 24, 1873	Persis (Winchester) Hemenway	82
March 24, 1873	Lucy (Lane) Jones, widow of John Jones	89
Oct. 11, 1873	Eliab Knapp	84
Oct. 11, 1873	Dolly (Samson) Gipson, widow of Henry Gipson	88
March 8, 1874	Elijah Brooks	87
April 9, 1874	Nancy Clark	85
Aug. 14, 1875	Hannah (Marble) Miller, widow of Joseph Miller	80
Aug. 14, 1875	Lydia (Stineker) Davis, wife of Adam Davis	100
March 21, 1876	Samuel Randall	91
Feb. 5, 1877	Eliza Thompson	89
March 5, 1877	Pitt Moore	89
March 12, 1877	Charlotte (Lowe) Goodwin, widow of David Goodwin	84
April 27, 1877	Mary (Brigham) Herrick, widow of Zimri Herrick	82
July 9, 1877	Sally (Chesmore) Stowell, widow of Moses Stowell	84
Aug. 18, 1877	Lucretia (Wilkins) Caldwell, widow of John Caldwell	91
Sept. 22, 1877	Betsey (Haven) Ward, widow of Nathaniel D. Ward	84
April 2, 1878	Elisha Crosby	88
May 11, 1878	Widow Ruth (Bowen) Paine	80
May 27, 1878	Elizabeth Atwell	84
Feb. 23, 1879	John Murray	85
Aug. 25, 1879	John Hastings	92
Oct. 29, 1879	Anna (Hastings) Sawtell, widow of Asa Sawtell	89
April 29, 1880	Philip Russell Merriam	96
July 8, 1880	Joshua Stowell	91
Oct. 18, 1880	Benjamin Lane	85
Nov. 26, 1880	Asa Tottingham	87
April 1, 1881	Elvira (Willard) Crosby, wife of Rev. Josiah D. Crosby	80
May 12, 1881	Adam Davis	81
May 29, 1881	Silas Ward	89
Nov. 3, 1881	Emma (Willard) Skelton, widow of Rev. Thomas Skelton, died in Boston	103
June 13, 1882	Priscilla (Earle) Watkins, widow of Jehiel Watkins	83
Aug. 2, 1882	Lydia A. (Cowdin) Howard, widow of Wm. H. Howard	83
Oct. 20, 1882	Gamaliel Hadley	85
Nov. 18, 1882	Antipas Maynard	80

DATE OF DEATH.		AGE.
Nov. 22, 1882	Miss Dorothy Hunt	85
Feb. 9, 1883	Nancy W. Bruce	86
Feb. 13, 1883	Visa (Clark) Pierce, widow of Dr. Nathaniel Pierce	92
April 9, 1883	Abel Sawyer	84
June 19, 1883	Dea. John Cushing Davis	82
July 18, 1883	Eliza (Adams) Stearns, widow of Timothy Stearns	86
Aug. 29, 1883	Anna (Sawyer) Rice, widow of Levi Rice	92
Oct. 17, 1883	Phebe Peterson	80
Jan. 19, 1884	Angeline Lashua (Canadian)	90
March 7, 1884	Edward Sawyer	80
June 18, 1884	Hannah Wetherbee	91
June 26, 1884	Ivers White	80
Aug. 12, 1884	Sarah H. Warren	92
Dec. 23, 1884	Sally (Bell) Newton, widow of Giles Newton	87
Feb. 22, 1885	Daniels Ellis	85
Feb. 22, 1885	Joshua B. Burgess	84
June 8, 1885	Col. Charles Barrett	97
Sept. 2, 1885	Edward Smith	82
Oct. 26, 1885	Martha T. (Knight) Hadley, widow of Gamaliel Hadley	84

The following persons, eighty or more years of age, were residing in Ashburnham January 1, 1886:

Miss Charlotte Davis, daughter of Ebenezer Bennett Davis, born June 11, 1797; Hosea Green born September 22, 1797; Miss Ruth Hunt, daughter of Deacon Sherebiah Hunt, born June 3, 1799; Lucy (Stimson) Davis, widow of Deacon John C. Davis, born August 20, 1799; Melinda (Bolles) Hastings, widow of John Hastings, born February 16, 1800; Charles Hastings born June 16, 1800; Clarissa (Willard) Whitmore, widow of Colonel Enoch Whitmore, born June 30, 1800; Rebecca (Green) Green, wife of Hosea Green, born March 5, 1801; Rebecca (Robbins) Stearns, widow of Charles Stearns, Esq., born February 9, 1802; Phebe (Danforth) Taylor, widow of Elijah Taylor, born February 9, 1802; George A. Willard born February 28, 1803; Harvey M. Bancroft born May 1, 1803; Louisa

(Kinsman) Sheldon, widow of Flint Sheldon, born May 20, 1803; Betsey (Bly) White, widow of Josiah White, born August 27, 1803; William Bartlett born January 31, 1804; Zoa A. (Lawrence) White, widow of Ivers White, born April 21, 1804; Nathan Taylor born May 11, 1804; Lucy (Kinsman) Wilder, wife of Jonathan P. Wilder, born September 4, 1804; Silas Willard born December 8, 1804; Jonathan P. Wilder born February 19, 1805; Betsey M. (Glazier) Bancroft, wife of Harvey M. Bancroft, born November 17, 1805; Margaret Nash, widow of John Nash, born December 28, 1805.

CHAPTER XXIII.

GLEANINGS.

A PRESENT TO REV. JOHN CUSHING. — SEATING THE MEETING-HOUSE. — MINOR TOPICS. — A NEW TOWN PROPOSED. — A NEW NAME SUGGESTED FOR ASHBURNHAM. — A WAR CLOUD. — SICKNESS. — A SEVERE WINTER. — A VARIETY. — THE GREAT GALE. — THE FIRST FIRE ENGINE. — TEMPERANCE. — MILLERITES. — THE GREAT FRESHET. — MISCELLANEOUS TOPICS.

CONSPICUOUS in the life of an individual or in the history of a community will appear many incidents which form no part of a connected narrative, and in such isolated events, frequently, are discerned vivid pictures of the manners and customs of the times. In this chapter will be found many threads and fragments that refused to weave into the fabric of the preceding chapters, yet some of the facts here collected are of interest. The modest gleanings of the Moabitish maiden contained as good wheat as was garnered in the fatter sheaves of the reapers, and in these unpretentious gleanings are found suggestions of the habits and surroundings of our fathers. A few of the incidents here recited, from 1780 to 1800, are copied from the journal of Isaac Stearns. They are given in his own language and his name is appended to each extract. The numerous votes of the town on a variety of subjects are copied from the records.

1769. The town presented Rev. John Cushing two and a half acres from the east side of the common. This was one-fourth of the area reserved for public purposes. This record

accounts for the fact that the common is longer from north to south than from east to west.

1771. This year the town chose Deacon Fellows, Ephraim Stone and Samuel Wilder "to seat the meeting-house according to age and pay; the fore seats by age and the rest by pay." The following year Samuel Wilder, William Whitcomb and John Willard were selected to perform this delicate duty. The custom of assigning a seat in the meeting-house to each family was universal at this time. In many towns the committees were instructed to take into account the character and standing of the man as well as his age and amount of taxes paid.

1776. The town "voted to buy a burying cloth and chose Samuel Wilder to get the same and offer it to the selectmen for acceptance." None of that board of selectmen were elected the following year, yet the vote might have been an honest expression to accomplish a desired and commendable purpose.

1778. The summer of this year was exceedingly dry and the labor of the husbandman was poorly repaid.

1780. The winter was one of unusual severity. The deep snow and cold weather continued late in the spring. May 19 was the memorable dark day. Here for the first time shines the light of Isaac Stearns' diary: "Friday it was extraordinary dark from nine o'clock to one and the night was as surprising." A few days later Mr. Stearns says, "I went to father's pasture and skinned some sheep killed by the wolves."

July 20. This day was observed as a public fast. For the first time a sexton was included in the list of town officers and one was annually chosen for many years.

Thursday, December 7. This day was observed throughout the colonies as a day of thanksgiving. Mr. Cushing

preached from the text, "Salvation belongeth unto the Lord. Thy blessing is upon thy people."

1781, April 18. "I went to chase after a bear," says Isaac Stearns. Tradition often asserts that the early settlers sometimes met a bear. In his choice of words, Mr. Stearns more clearly defines the habits of the animal.

The town for the first time legislates concerning the observance of the Sabbath in these explicit terms: "Voted that it is the town's mind to put a stop to unnecessary travelling on the Sabbath and that the town will support the officers in the execution of their office."

1782, May 2. Under this date Isaac Stearns says, "I went to help fetch in to Mr. Taylor's, Capt. Solomon Woods who was wounded by the fall of a pine and he died the following morning."

May 3. "I went to carry the corpse to Groton."

It is probable that this fatal accident occurred in New Ipswich. Thaddeus Taylor lived in the southwest corner of that town and the home of Isaac Stearns was where Edwin J. Stearns now resides. It was the custom of Mr. Cushing to record all the deaths that occurred in this town, but he makes no mention of the death of Captain Woods.

1785, April 22. "A severe snow storm — two feet of snow." — Isaac Stearns.

1786, May 24. "I went to the raising of Captain Francis Lane's mill." — Isaac Stearns.

1787, January 22. "I went to town meeting," says Isaac Stearns, and the following entry three days later announces the subject of the meeting. "I went to town to see about getting men to go against the insurgents." This refers to Shays' rebellion. There was no legal town meeting on the day named and the one referred to by Mr. Stearns was probably an informal conference of the loyal citizens.

1790. The town "voted to sell their old paper money." No record concerning the amount nor the proceeds of the sale has been found.

1791, April 15. "I went to town meeting which was called to see if the town would reconsider a former vote and set the meeting-house in the centre of the town." — ISAAC STEARNS.

This refers to an effort made by a portion of the town to secure the location of the meeting-house at some point north of the old common, and as the advocates claimed, nearer the geographical centre of the town. The town heard the petition and by a vote of 77 to 33 decided to build the new house on the old common.

June 9. "I went to a meeting at my brother's to see if we could agree for a new town taking a part of Ashburnham, Rindge and New Ipswich." — ISAAC STEARNS.

This proposition was mentioned in the other towns named but early failed for want of support.

Nov. 10, Thursday. "I went to the dedication of the new meeting-house. Mr. Cushing preached from the text: 'But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold the heaven and heaven of heavens cannot contain thee: how much less this house that I have builded.'" — ISAAC STEARNS.

1794, March 3. The town, probably influenced by some prominent citizen who desired to honor Hon. Moses Gill of Princeton, "Voted to petition the General Court to have the town's name altered to the name of Gill."

The town of Gill in Franklin county was incorporated a few months previous to this vote, and no petition was ever presented to the Legislature. It is probable that the ambition of Mr. Gill was satisfied with one namesake, and that when the town heard of his contentment the matter was

suffered to rest. Happily the good substantial name of Ashburnham was preserved. This year the town "Voted that if the government does not give the soldiers forty shillings per month the town will make it up to them, provided they are called into actual service in defence of the United States."

Nearly every town in this vicinity about this date passed a vote to the same effect. The purport of these votes frequently has been misunderstood and many false inferences have been drawn from them. The vote was a sequence of the action of Congress in calling upon the several States to hold in readiness a certain proportion of the militia in the event of a war with England. Following the peace of 1783, the United States and Great Britain each incessantly complained that the other was violating the stipulations of the treaty. These complaints and the excitement produced in the public mind were rife at this time. They were quieted for a season by the ratification of the Jay treaty but were not removed until after the war of 1812.

1795. The records of Mr. Cushing note the prevalence of an unusual amount of sickness in 1794 and the early months of 1795. Of this season Isaac Stearns, under date of March 16, 1795, says, — "Now it is a day of trouble wish us in our neighborhood and in our town. The Lord in his righteous judgment has sent or permitted a grievous distemper to prevail. It is the rash and canker. I suppose it is the old throat distemper. It has swept off a great number in this town."

Wednesday, March 18. "I attended the funeral of Mr. Lemuel Stimson's son and Mr. Stephen Randall's child and likewise of Col. Lane's wife where I was called to be one of the bearers. These three and a child of Thomas Laws', Jun., which was his only child, and the third he had been

called to part with in six months — these four were all carried into the meeting-house at one time. A sermon was preached by Rev. Mr. Cushing from Isaiah, xxv. 8: 'He will swallow up death in victory: and the Lord God will wipe away the tears from off all faces.'"

December 6. The town "Voted that Dr. Abraham Lowe be a committee to return the thanks of the town to Messrs. Willard for their generous present of a time-piece to the town." The clock presented to the town was in the old meeting-house many years, and is remembered by many now living.

1796. The town "chose Dr. Abraham Lowe, Samuel Wilder, Esq., and Col. Joseph Jewett a committee to invite a certain number of families belonging to Westminster, to join this town." These proceedings eventually resulted in the annexation to this town of the farms of John Ward and William Barrell.

1797. The selectmen, to whom the subject had been referred, "reported a recommendation that the town straighten the walls of the grave yard; make and hang two gates, each ten feet long, one at each end of the meeting-house, and cut and clear off the brush, and wall in both places where there are now bars."

1798. "Voted that Samuel Wilder, Esq., Dr. Abraham Lowe and Capt. David Cushing be a committee to remonstrate the general court against the erection of a new court house in Worcester."

Friday, May 10. "I attended the funeral of Esqr. Samuel Wilder. He died very suddenly in his bed Fast day morning May 9. Mr. Cushing preached a sermon in the meeting-house from the text, — 'Blessed is that servant whom his Lord when he cometh shall find so doing.' A great number both in the town and from a number of towns

attended the funeral. This is a great loss to the church and town for he was a serviceable man." — ISAAC STEARNS.

1799. Another winter of unusual severity lingered into the months of spring. In the annals of other towns there are many references to this season and the prevailing scarcity of forage for cattle and horses. Under date of May 15, when he had substantial reason to presume that the worst was over, Isaac Stearns says, — "Here it may be worth while to take notice of the extraordinary season through the winter and spring. The winter set in about the middle of November — we did not have any very large snow at a time, but there fell a great deal in the course of the winter. And it was remarkable for cold, here the sledding held out about five months and it is said they went into Boston by sledding eighteen weeks. The spring has been very cold and backward and snowed repeatedly and one considerable snow May 12. People then almost despaired of seed time. It has been a winter much to be remembered. A great number of cattle died in this town and elsewhere by reason of the severity of the winter and the sickness that was on them. There died out of the stock of the widow of Silas Whitney eighteen head of horned cattle."

A few days later Mr. Stearns chronicles the loss of three of his cows and soliloquizes as follows: "This is a frown in Providence. I desire to submit calmly without a murmuring thought, though it is distressing in such a family as mine to lose three good cows at this time of the year. May I be brought to set my affections less on the creatures and more on the Creator. Blessed be God who is teaching me the fading nature of earthly enjoyments."

1800, Saturday, February 22. "I went to the meeting-house to hear a eulogy on account of the death of General Washington." — ISAAC STEARNS.

Of these services Dr. Abraham T. Lowe recently gave the following account: "Washington died in December, 1799. There was a general observance of his funeral rites throughout the country. In many parts of the United States, these services were held in the subsequent February. This commemoration service of our first President, in Ashburnham, was reserved for the twenty-second of February, the anniversary of his birth. The Rev. Dr. Cushing addressed a crowded congregation, and concluded the service by reading an acrostic, presenting the name in capitals, — George Washington, — written by my father; a copy of which, having been found among papers left by my sister, I here subjoin."

"Gone? Yes, forever! Washington has fled!
Entered death's gate, and mingled with the dead;
On pinions as a dove, has winged his way,
Rising from earth to everlasting day:
Glad angels stand with harps attuned to sing,
Enter, great Chief, the glories of thy King!

"While God, benignant, from his throne above,
A welcome tenders, fraught with life and love,
Since such the mandate is, our tears we dry:
He lives again! to dwell with God on high.
Illustrious Chief! whose virtues were our guide;
Nor shall the tomb his goodness, greatness, hide, —
Great in defence of rights vouchsafed to man;
Truth, kindness, justice, through his being ran.
O tyrant Death! thou layest the highest low;
Nor fearest to startle millions at a blow."

1801. "Voted to git a good new carriage and harness for to carry corpses on and build a house for to keep the same in."

1803. "Voted not to get a cushion and trimmings for the pulpit."

1804. "Voted to get a new burying cloth and that the selectmen be a committee to get the same."

1805. "Voted to cut the trees and bushes in the grave yard."

1806. "Voted to build two horse blocks at the meeting-house, one at each end."

1807. Monday, January 26. "This was supposed to be about as cold as ever was known." — ISAAC STEARNS.

1808. "Voted to get a cushion and other trimmings for the pulpit in the meeting-house."

"Voted to petition the general court to have the taking of fish in the ponds in Ashburnham regulated."

1812. This was a cold, wet summer. A snow-storm began May 24 and continued twenty-four hours.

1814. "Voted to get a new hearse and harness and that it be a four-wheeled one and that the selectmen do procure one accordingly."

1815. In September there was a remarkable gale that caused great damage in this town. A wind from the south-east of unprecedented velocity continued with slight abatement from nine to eleven o'clock in the forenoon. Fences, trees and in some localities whole forests were prostrated. Its greatest force was from Maine to New York and inland from sixty to eighty miles. The great blow of 1815 for many years was a subject of frequent remark.

1816. The summer was exceedingly wet and cold. Frost occurred every month, and from June 6 to June 11 the frosts were severe.

The public well on the common was dug this year.

1817. The town voted not to purchase a stove for the meeting-house. At several subsequent meetings a similar vote was passed. A stove was finally procured through individual effort about 1825.

This year the town "Voted that the selectmen do their duty and enforce the laws respecting tavern haunters."

1825. "Voted to choose two agents to each pond to put the law in force concerning fishing."

1829. A few enterprising citizens having purchased and brought to this town a fire engine, a proposition was made to sell a right in it to the town on these terms: "To see if the town will pay a part towards the Ingine that is purchased provided the proprietors will give it up for the use of the inhabitants of said town." The vote was in the negative.

1830. In accordance with the requirements of a compulsory statute the town was surveyed by Enoch Whitmore and Jesse Stearns.

1832. The temperance crusade early found supporters in Ashburnham. This year the town gave warning of a determined purpose by a vote "that whenever the selectmen see or know of any person or persons, inhabitants of this town, to git drunk or intoxicated with ardent spirits to take notice of the same and to deal with them as the law in such cases has provided."

1835. A road case being under consideration the declaration of a vote in the premises was disputed. On a division of the town to make the vote certain, there were sixty-three in the affirmative and sixty-three in the negative, whereupon the town "Voted that the inhabitants form two lines on the common to determine this question." The two lines were then formed, the files counted and the advocates of the road prevailed.

1836. The town appropriated fifty dollars to procure buckets for the engine company.

1837. The town voted to excuse the engine men from the payment of a poll tax.

1838. In former years the town had refused to pay for ringing bells at noon and at nine o'clock in the evening.

This year it ordered that the two bells in the village be each rung at these hours six months at the expense of the town. The custom was continued many years.

1842. The Miller delusion caused considerable excitement and found several adherents in this town. This movement, supported more by prophecy than fulfilment, extended with unequal fervor through two or three years. It accomplished no good and frequently left its temporary adherents in an unsettled state of mind. Many characteristic incidents attended the preaching and the experience of the disciples in this town, but they are attended by no profitable or pleasing memories. Over this exhibition of human weakness and folly, charity proffers the friendly mantle of silence.

1850, May 6. The dam at Rice pond broke away and great damage ensued in the valley below. The *freshet*, as it is ever called, is a memorable event in the annals of Ashburnham. Many are now living who witnessed the anger of the deluge and surveyed the ruin wrought by the seething current. So vivid remains the picture of the scene in their memory that to them words can convey no intelligence nor fitly express the portentous character of the flood. The thought and experience of the multitude collected near the scene would fill a volume, but only the cause and the visible results are left for record. For many years previous to the freshet, a dam had been maintained at Rice pond and during the greater part of the year the water was maintained several feet above the original level of the pond. In the spring of 1850 two feet of clay soil had been placed on top of the dam without a sufficient support of stone and spiles. During the days immediately preceding the catastrophe the pond was full and was two feet higher than ever before. Sunday was a rainy day and during the night the rain fell copiously. The clouds lifted Monday morning and a high wind set in

from the northwest sweeping across the pond, and, little by little, wearing the crown of the dam with the waves. Soon a small but continuous stream flowed over the top increasing with every moment. The current plowed deeper and deeper, until the dam yielded to the force of the escaping water. When the first breach was made an alarm was raised and a number of men hastened to the rescue, but they were too late and the maddened flood came dashing onward to its work of destruction.

The mighty volume of water, with anger written on the crest of every wave, swept away every dam and every bridge spanning the river between the reservoir and Fitchburg. At the Naukeag cotton mill which sturdily withstood the shock, the dam was suddenly removed and the mill was an island in the sea of foam and waves that beat and surged around its base. Baffled in a first assault, the wrathful current dashed on to an easy conquest at the tannery of Fletcher and Warren. The buildings were suddenly lifted to the summit of the waves and scattered in the fury of the flood. In its onward course the tub shop of Caldwell and Ellis, protected by a pile of logs, and the grain-mill, now of Colonel George H. Barrett, were not seriously injured. Then fell the morocco shop and the furniture shop which stood near the bridge. With force unabated and with billows bristling with the trophies of conquest and huge boulders rolling along in the current or hurled to the shore and sweeping the bridge into the basin below, the flood dashed into a more capacious channel. The mills of Charles and George C. Winchester were not destroyed, but a great quantity of stock and lumber was swept away. In Factory Village the damage was renewed. The cotton factory was spared to feed the flames at a subsequent time, but the property was greatly injured. The old Dunster saw-mill

was overthrown and sad havoc was made of the morocco shop of Luther B. and Andrew J. Adams. On Mill street the chair factory, formerly of Corey, Barrett and Kibling, was undermined and fell after a sturdy resistance of the sweeping force of the first assault, and many smaller buildings were floated on the surface of the waves.

In the midst of the excitement attending the approach of the flood, George Rockwood started down the river to warn the people of the approaching danger. He swiftly rode to West Fitchburg and from that place other messengers continued the alarm. It is said that many did not heed the warning of the Ashburnham prophet, but when the hour of danger came they found ample occasion for returning grateful acknowledgments for the hour of preparation which his kindness had granted them. Beyond the limits of this town the damage was considerable, but the sweeping fury of the current was lessened in its onward progress.

A few days after the catastrophe, an informal meeting of the citizens of Ashburnham was assembled and the situation was calmly reviewed. In a summary of the losses, it was stated at this meeting that twelve dams, a chair shop, a cabinet shop, an extensive tannery, a saw-mill, a morocco shop and several store and dry houses had been swept away. The remaining buildings were injured, and for miles along the margins of the stream were large quantities of hides, cotton yarn, chair material and finished wares. At this meeting a committee, consisting of Rev. Josiah D. Crosby, Rev. Elnathan Davis, George G. Parker, Charles Stearns, George Rockwood, Colonel Enoch Whitmore and Dr. John Petts, were selected to solicit and distribute the donations of the charitable in the surrounding towns. About twelve hundred dollars was promptly collected and awarded in various sums to the most needy of the sufferers.

In connection with any reference to the flood the following report preserved among the papers of Charles Stearns, Esq., preserves a semi-official account of the losses sustained. It will be observed that the report was made only four days after the disaster.

We, the subscribers, residents of Ashburnham, having been chosen by the inhabitants of said town, a committee to ascertain the amount of direct damages sustained by the different owners of mills and other property, situated upon the stream issuing from the reservoir in said town, on the sixth day of May, have attended to the business assigned us and submit the following report:

Reservoir Dam, No. 5	$500
David R. Marshall	950
Naukeag Man'f'g Co.	2,500
Amos Taylor — Shop	100
E. L. Merrick — Machinist	75
William Rice — Machinist	100
Fletcher and Warren — Tannery	6,000
Caldwell and Ellis	550
Mr. Day — Grist-mill and Saw-mill	1,000
Wheeler's Chair Factory	1,000
C. M. Proctor — Blacksmith	600
Horace Black — Cabinet Shop	1,070
Black and Wilder	1,000
Jonathan P. Wilder	250
Winchester and Barrett	2,750
C. and G. C. Winchester	3,725
Charles Stoddard — Wheelwright	400
George Blackburn — Cotton Factory	6,000
S. Knights — Saw-mill	500
L. B. and A. J. Adams — Morocco	1,525
Ivers Adams — Stock	200
Amos Whitney — Farm	500
Samuel Brooks — Farm	250
David Whitney — Farm	100
Total	$31,645

The committee would further state that the above estimate of losses was carefully ascertained by personal inquiry of the different owners of the property lost and that the statement as above is, as we believe, under rather than above the actual losses and damages.

EUROPE H. FAIRBANKS,
ANTIPAS MAYNARD,
STEPHEN A. MILLER,
} Committee.

ASHBURNHAM, June 10, 1850.

With a hopeful countenance directed to the future, and with the sympathy and encouragement of the community, the dams and bridges were promptly rebuilt and a new and more substantial dam was erected at the reservoir and, except in the memory of men, all traces of the flood were soon obliterated.

1860. This year the town voted not to make an appropriation for the ringing of the bell at noon and at nine in the evening, but, missing the accustomed sound or for some other cause, the motion was reconsidered and the bell was rung as usual.

The selectmen were instructed to prosecute all violations of the liquor laws.

1861. A proposition to change the time of holding the annual town meeting to the first Monday in April was defeated.

The engine men are paid two dollars each and the abatement of poll tax. The same remuneration was allowed before and after this date.

1864. The public hay scales were purchased this year. Two years later a like convenience was established at South Ashburnham at the expense of the town.

Rev. J. D. Crosby, Reuben Townsend, Jerome W. Foster, Ohio Whitney, Jr., and George C. Winchester were chosen

to report at a future meeting concerning a centennial celebration of the incorporation of the town. On the report of this committee the town "voted to dispense with a centennial celebration *for the present.*"

1866. A committee of twenty-five was chosen to enforce the liquor laws.

1869. Following heavy rains in October great damage was done by a freshet in many parts of New England. In this town all the streams were swollen and the highways were injured to an extent unprecedented in the history of the town. The greatest damage occurred in South Ashburnham where the freshet was augmented by the breakage of the dam at the mill on the site of the chair factories of Wilbur F. Whitney. All the dams on that stream in this town, except the dam at the mill of E. Gross and Son, were broken and the water overflowing the banks of the river made havoc with movables within its reach. The dam at the saw-mill of Horace W. Houston was swept away at this time and visions of a deluge were everywhere visible. Painful apprehensions of more serious consequences were entertained, but the bow of promise again appeared and tranquillity returned with the subsiding waters.

1870. An informal vote, in the nature of a request, concerning the site of Cushing Academy, was adopted. This measure recommended that the buildings be erected on land of George C. Winchester and north of his residence. William P. Ellis, Simeon Merritt and Marshall Wetherbee were selected to communicate to the trustees the desire of the town.

This year six hundred dollars was appropriated for the purchase of a town clock to be placed in the belfry of the new Methodist church. By the conditions of the vote the clock was to remain under the control of the town.

1871. A hose carriage and five hundred feet of additional hose were purchased by the town.

1872. The town appropriated one thousand dollars for a fire engine for the use of South Ashburnham and also purchased a site and built an engine-house in that village.

1874. Upper Naukeag was leased for the propagation of fish and Ohio Whitney was chosen agent.

1875. The new engine-house in central village was built this year. The committee to select and purchase a site and to superintend its construction were George C. Foster, George G. Rockwood and John H. Wilkins.

1877. Ward pond was leased for the propagation of fish.

1879. A new hearse was purchased.

SHADE TREES. — To subdue a forest was the mission of the early settlers of Ashburnham. The planting and care of shade trees is an impulse of succeeding generations. The appearance of the streets and the comfort of the homes of the villagers, and at many homesteads in all parts of the town, are indebted to the enterprising citizens who have prosecuted a commendable work. It will be kindly remembered that many of the shade trees on Lawrence and Chapel streets were planted by George C. Winchester. And in all parts of the village, many have been planted by the Village Improvement Society, while the Congregational Society, the trustees of Cushing Academy and many citizens have attended to the adornment of their respective lots.

A record of the present dimension of some of the familiar trees in this town will be of interest in the future, and will afford data from which the continued growth can be noted. In the summer of the present year (1886) the following measurements were made by Deacon William P. Ellis and George C. Foster, Esq. The several measures given denote the circumference of the tree at a distance of two feet from the ground.

A stately elm near the residence of Charles Winchester measures $14\frac{6}{12}$ feet. Tradition asserts that this tree was planted 1756. An English linden near the residence of Mrs. Ivers White, planted over eighty years ago, measures $8\frac{1}{12}$ feet. An elm on the grounds of Elbridge Stimson, and near the land of J. L. Cummings, Esq., measures $5\frac{3}{12}$ feet. This tree, then two inches in diameter, was planted by Pyam Burr in 1857. An oak, near the Congregational church and east of the horse shed of George Clark, was planted by Edward Sawyer about thirty years ago. It measures $5\frac{10}{12}$ feet. In 1847 Rev. Elnathan Davis set two small maples in front of the house now of Martin B. Lane. Each measures $5\frac{8}{12}$ feet. An elm planted by Walter O. Parker, in 1880, then less than three inches in diameter, now measures $2\frac{4}{12}$ feet. An elm planted by George C. Foster, in 1881, has increased in circumference 15 inches in five years. An elm at the corner of Main and Pleasant streets was set by the Village Improvement Society in 1881, and was then about two inches in diameter. It now measures $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet. Two elms planted about one hundred years ago by Deacon Sherebiah Hunt, in front of the residence of Albert T. Bemis, measure respectively 10 and 12 feet. Two elms at the farm now of Joseph H. Harris, which were planted by Samuel Wilder, Esq., measure respectively $12\frac{3}{10}$ and $12\frac{10}{12}$ feet. Two attractive maples at the residence of Dr. L. L. Whitmore, one near the barn and one at the other side of the highway, were planted 1850. They now measure 4 and $4\frac{8}{12}$ feet. A native oak in the yard of Joseph E. Clark measures $10\frac{7}{12}$ feet. The stately elm near the residence of Elijah Gross measures $13\frac{6}{12}$ feet. This tree was planted by Asa Brooks, son of Simeon Brooks, about ninety years ago. Near by stands a thrifty elm planted 1876, by Miss Sarah W. Gross, measures $2\frac{4}{12}$ feet, and an oak planted about 1860 measures $5\frac{8}{12}$ feet.

Genealogical Register.



NAUKEAG LAKE FROM PACKARD'S HILL.



LANDSCAPE ROW FROM MEETING HOUSE HILL.

GENEALOGICAL REGISTER

OF

THE EARLY FAMILIES OF ASHBURNHAM.

INTRODUCTION.

THOSE who assume that nothing is gained from a study of the characteristics of their ancestors ignore at the outset that possibly an unfilial nature underlying such indifference was inherited, and through the influence of transmitted sentiment they deceive themselves in the conclusion that there is no inheritance in manner of thought. Under the equalities of republican institutions, and in the absence of laws of primogeniture and hereditary distinction, the selfish incentive to genealogical study fails and only a filial sentiment and an amiable desire lend pleasure and encouragement to these researches. The familiar type of character which has attended many of these families through successive generations and the influence of marriage alliance have presented many opportunities for a study which has enlivened the labor

involved in these registers. With a sympathy akin to pity for many who had preserved no knowledge of their ancestors, I have made a willing effort to extend and complete a defective record. In gathering the material for the following registers, fifteen hundred letters soliciting information have been written and many public and private records have been attentively perused. The records of the older towns, the former homes of the early settlers of Ashburnham, have afforded valuable information, while cemeteries and probate records have supplied many deficiencies.

To present the record of the generations of many of the families previous to their removal to this town has invited research and labor and has been attended with a regret that of a few of the early families such a record could not be secured.

If it is presumed by any that too little attention has been bestowed upon those families who have recently removed to this town, or to the younger generation of the present inhabitants, the compass of the volume will plead excuse, and in some instances a failure to secure the record. is the only reason for its absence.

Many will presume that they discover errors in the multitude of dates contained in the following pages. It is feared that in some instances such conjecture will be sustained by the facts, but it should be borne in mind that frequently public records and family registers present contradictory dates of the same event. The record which has passed through the least number of copies has generally been accepted. I am aware that critics too hastily will assume

that records in their possession are correct. Experience in these pursuits leads one to presume that an error may exist in any record. Even the dates carefully chiselled in marble are not infallible. In one instance, at least, the records of this town demonstrate that a former worthy citizen paid taxes, held town office and shared the vicissitudes of a vigorous earthly existence several years after the date solemnly attested by the headstone erected to his memory.

Referring to places the town and State are given, but in the frequent mention of towns in Massachusetts and the border towns of Rindge and New Ipswich, the State is purposely omitted.

To Charles A. Bemis, author of the History of Marlborough, New Hampshire; Rev. William S. Heywood, who has in preparation a History of Westminster; F. E. Blake, familiar with the annals and traditions of Princeton; Charles F. Packard of Ashburnham, who has furnished several registers, and Horatio Hill, Esq., of Chicago, Illinois, for information of the Hill and collateral families, I am greatly indebted for polite favors and valuable assistance. Other favors are acknowledged in connection with the family registers, which through valuable contributions are rendered more complete.

ADAMS.

This has been a prominent and honored name in the annals of Ashburnham. There are several distinct families of Adams in New England, but the numerous families bearing the name in this town have a common lineage. All of them belong to the Cambridge family and are descendants of Capt. Thomas Adams who was b. 1713. The emigrant ancestor was John Adams, a son of Henry Adams of Devonshire, England. He was md. in England, and there one or more of his children were b., but he was residing in Cambridge as early as 1650, where several other children were b. He was a millwright and d. 1706, aged 85. His widow Ann was living 1714. Among their six children was Joseph Adams, who in 1697 received from his father a deed of the homestead which was near the present railway station in Arlington Centre. He md. Feb. 21, 1687–8, Margaret Eames, dau. of Thomas and Mary (Blanford) Eames. He d. July 20, 1701, and his widow md. Dec. 27, 1705, Daniel Dean of Concord. There appears no record of the birth of the children of Joseph and Margaret Adams, but there appears no evidence to qualify the statement of Cutter's History of Arlington that they had a son Joseph who is known in Cambridge records as Lieut. Joseph Adams, and who was b. 1688 or 1689. He md. Jan. 18, 1710–11, Rebecca Cutter, dau. of William and Rebecca (Rolfe) Cutter. She d. Jan. 12, 1717–8, leaving four children; and by second wife, Rachel, there were five children, Lieut. Adams was a selectman of Cambridge several years, precinct treasurer fifteen years, and in 1750 he was one of a committee to renew the bounds of Cambridge farm in this town. He d. Oct. 18, 1774, aged 86.

1 Capt. Thomas Adams, of the fourth generation, a son of Lieut. Joseph and Rebecca (Cutter) Adams, was b. in Cambridge, now Arlington, Aug. 20, 1713. About 1735, he removed to Worcester, where he resided until 1752, when he returned to Cambridge. He was an innholder, an active, influential citizen, and was frequently chosen to positions of responsibility and trust. In the French and Indian War he commanded a company of men enlisted from Cambridge and the towns in that vicinity which was in the service eight months. Upon their return with the loss of only one man, Rev. Samuel Cook preached a sermon Nov. 12, 1758, commemorating the event.

In 1764 Capt. Adams was precinct committee man and assessor, and the same year he was one of a committee chosen to sell the Cambridge farm in Ashburnham, of which he subsequently owned the larger portion.

Capt. Adams removed to Ashburnham in 1778 and continued a residence in this town with little, if any, interruption until his death. He occupied a part of Cambridge farm in the southeast part of the town, and during the later years of his life his son Ebenezer Thomas resided with him. He was chosen surveyor of the highways in 1779 and his name is found on all the existing tax lists from 1778 to 1802. The fact that he was not taxed in Menotomy after 1777 and was not named in the seating of the meeting-house in 1781, has called forth an expression of surprise from the local historians. An easy explanation

is found in the fact of his residence during these years in this town.

He md. Sept. 22, 1737, Anna Frost, dau. of Ephraim and Sarah (Cooper) Frost of Menotomy. She d. Oct. 6, 1740. He md. (2d) Lydia Chadwick, dau. of John Chadwick of Worcester; she d. 1748. He md. (3d) Sept. 13, 1754, Elizabeth (Sanders) Bowman, widow of Ebenezer Bowman. They lived to advanced age and d. the same year. She d. March 26, 1802, aged, says Mr. Cushing, "between 80 and 90 years." He d. Nov. 9, 1802, aged 89 years.

2 I. *Joseph*, b. Oct. 6, 1740; d. same day.

3 II. *Hannah*, b. April 13, 1743; md. Walter Russell, *q. v.*; md. (2d) Enos Jones, *q. v.*

4 III. *John*, b. Jan 22, 1744–5.+

5 IV. *Lydia*, b. Aug. 20, 1755; md. Lemuel Blanchard, b. in Billerica July 1, 1749; son of John and Elizabeth (Richardson) Blanchard. They resided in Cambridge where he was styled a trader, and where he d. about 1790. She md. (2d) July 30, 1795, Joseph Thorndike, Esq., a prominent citizen of Jaffrey, N. H. He d. June 25, 1814. She survived him, but the date of her death is unknown. By the first marriage she had two children and perhaps others.

6 1. Thomas, b. April 20, 1779.

7 2. Son, b. April 27, 1783.

8 V. *Lucretia*, b. Aug. 2, 1757; md. Ethan Wetherbee, *q. v.*

9 VI. *Ebenezer Thomas*, b. Jan. 10, 1762.+

(4) JOHN ADAMS was the first of the family in Ashburnham where he resided over seventy years. *Vide* Chapter XX. He md. July 9, 1770, Joanna Munroe, b. April 12, 1747, dau. of Jonas and Joanna (Locke) Munroe and a sister of Lieut. Ebenezer Munroe who subsequently resided in this town. She d., leaving nine children, Nov. 26, 1822. He md. (2d) 1826, Lucy (Simonds) Munroe, widow of Lieut. Ebenezer Munroe. He d. at Harford, Penn., Feb. 26, 1849, aged 104 years, 1 month and 4 days.

10 I. *John*, b. April 27, 1771.+

11 II. *Levi*, b. Dec. 31, 1773.+

12 III. *Joanna*, b. June 18, 1775; md. Stephen Corey, *q. v.*

13 IV. *Jonas R.*, b. April 8, 1777.+

14 V. *James*, b. June 10, 1779.+

15 VI. *Rebecca*, b. Feb. 22, 1781; md. May 28, 1807, Joel Davis, *q. v.*
16 VII. *Walter Russell*, b. April 5, 1783.+
17 VIII. *Betsy*, b. Oct. 30, 1785; d. unmd.
18 IX. *Polly*, b. Jan. 25, 1789; md. David Cushing, *q. v.*

(9) EBENEZER THOMAS ADAMS, youngest son of Capt. Thomas Adams, removed to this town with his father and settled on Cambridge farm about 1778. He was a captain of the militia. He was a man of marked ability and influence. He md. June 20, 1784, Polly Goodwin, b. 1763, dau. of Thomas and Mary (Miller) Goodwin of Charlestown. He d. Aug. 6, 1804; his widow d. Feb. 24, 1815.

19 I. *Ebenezer*, b. May 16, 1785.+
20 II. *Polly*, b. Oct. 15, 1786; d. Nov. 16, 1786.
21 III. *Stephen*, b. Sept. 19, 1788.+
22 IV. *Mary*, b. March 17, 1791; md. Gen. Ivers Jewett, *q. v.*
23 V. *Hepsibah*, b. Sept. 29, 1793; md. Thomas Russell, *q. v.*
24 VI. *Eliza*, b. Nov. 19, 1796; md. Capt. Timothy Stearns, *q. v.*
25 VII. *Thomas*, b. Sept. 7, 1799; d. Jan. 2, 1801.
26 VIII. *Lydia*, md. Gen. Ivers Jewett, *q. v.*

(10) ENSIGN JOHN ADAMS, eldest son of John Adams, the centenarian, held many positions of trust. He was an ensign in the militia, and by this title he was distinguished in the records from his father and his eldest son who bore the same name. He md. Dec. 1, 1796, Dolly Gibson, dau. of Samuel Gibson. He d. Jan. 6, 1844; she d. May 20, 1835.

27 I. *Infant*, b. Jan. 25, 1799; d. same day.
28 II. *John*, b. April 7, 1803.+
29 III. *Cinderilla*, b. July 25, 1806; md. Amos D. Scollay, *q. v.*
30 IV. *Harriett*, b. Feb. 16, 1809; md. Merrick Whitney, *q. v.*
31 V. *Dolly Gibson*, b. June 25, 1811; md. Darwin Woods, *q. v.*
32 VI. *Jane M.*, b. May 17, 1814; d. unmd. Nov. 9, 1838.

(11) LEVI ADAMS, son of John, md. 1798, Deborah Leland, b. 1778, dau. of Caleb and Deborah (Farrar) Leland of Leominster. She d. 1814; he md. (2d) Mrs. Hannah (Hale) Adams. He was a farmer and a tanner. A few

years after his first marriage he removed to Leominster and later to Townsend. Late in life he removed to Harford, Penn., where he d. Aug. 2, 1845. Six children by first and one by second marriage.

33 I. *Deborah*, b. Sept. 5, 1799; md. Asa P. Cowdin of Fitchburg. She d. his widow in this town, Jan. 10, 1877.

34 II. *Milton*, b. 1801.+

35 III. *Caroline*, b. Nov. 11, 1804; md. Feb. 21, 1826, Ezra Baker, a worthy citizen of Jaffrey, N. H. Two children.

36 1. Milton, b. July 23, 1830; resides unmd. in Jaffrey.

37 2. Mahala, b. Aug. 15, 1833; md. George A. Underwood of Jaffrey.

38 IV. *Levi*, b. Sept. 18, 1806; d. July 19, 1825.

39 V. *Mary*, b. March 13, 1811; resides unmd. in this town.

40 VI. *Nancy*, b. March 17, 1813; md. May 1, 1833, George W. Hunt, son of Joel and Clara (Metcalf) Hunt. They resided several years in Fitchburg. In 1856 they removed to Lawrence, Kansas. He d. March 22, 1870. Six children.

41 VII. *Amos H.*, b. Aug. 11, 1824; resides in Pennsylvania.

(13) JONAS R. ADAMS, son of John, was twice married, but no record has been secured. In early life he removed to Pennsylvania, and in 1836 he removed with his family to Illinois and settled about twenty miles from Chicago in the township of Lisle and near the post office of Downer's Grove. He was a farmer. About 1856 he visited his native town and witnessed with mingled pain and pleasure the ravages and improvements of years. He d. a few years later. Only an imperfect record of his children can be given.

42 I. *James L.*, b. 1806; resided a few years with his father and returned to Pennsylvania. He was postmaster at Brooklyn, Penn., many years. He d. suddenly, 1885.

43 II. *Nancy*, md. Alexander Foster.

44 III. *Eliza*, md. —— Race.

45 IV. *Amos*, b. 1825; in 1848 was a lawyer in Chicago, subsequently he removed to California and has been successful.

46 V. *Albert*, b. 1827; removed to California.

47 VI. *Mary E.*, b. 1834.

(14) JAMES ADAMS, son of John, resided in Ashburnham until 1834, when he removed to Harford, Penn. He md. June 22, 1800, Dolly Dickerson, dau. of Amos Dickerson, *q. v.*; she d. Jan. 18, 1818; he md. (2d) 1819, Lucy Sawtelle. He d. April 30, 1855; she d. Sept. 21, 1864. It was with this son that the aged father passed the declining years of a prolonged and useful life.



OLD ADAMS HOMESTEAD—EAST PART OF TOWN.

48 I. *Nancy*, md. 1819, Loring Gates, son of John Gates, *q. v.*

49 II. *Dolly*, b. Sept. 5, 1802; md. 1820, Luther Brooks, Jr., *q. v.*

50 III. *James*, b. Nov. 24, 1804.+

51 IV. *Elizabeth D.*, md. John Boynton of Groton.

52 V. *Jonas*, was a farmer in Harford, Penn.; md. Emeline Tiffiny. He d. about 1877.

53 1. Elizabeth, md. Henry Estabrook; d. 1882.

54 2. Sumner, md. —— Barnard; resides on paternal homestead.

55 VI. *Joanna*, md. Laban Capron; resided in Harford, Penn.; d. about 1865.

56 VII. *John*, b. about 1821; md. —— Peck; resides in Harford, Penn.

57 VIII. *Andrew Jackson*, resided in Ashburnham from 1845 to 1850; returned to Harford, Penn.; md. Sarah Jane Sawyer, dau. of Abel Sawyer, *q. v.*

58 IX. *Estella*, md. Henry Jeffers; resides in Brooklyn, Penn.

59 X. *Sarah*, md. Hubbard N. Smith; resides in Lenox, Penn.

60 XI. *William*, resides in Hopbottom, Penn.

(16) WALTER RUSSELL ADAMS, youngest son of John, was a prosperous farmer in this town. He was an ensign in the Ashburnham Light Infantry when the company was in the service in 1814. He md. Feb. 7, 1804, Mercy Fairbanks, dau. of Cyrus Fairbanks, *q. v.*; she d. March 7, 1853. He md. (2d) 1854, Mrs. Abigail (Fairbanks) Patch, a sister of his first wife. He d. Sept. 22, 1868; his wife d. 1866.

61 I. *Walter*, b. Nov. 4, 1807.+

62 II. *Mary*, b. Oct. 29, 1808; md. May 19, 1836, Asa Ames, son of Bulkley and Lydia (Prescott) Ames of Groton, where he d. April 14, 1846. She md. (2d) 1847, Calvin Childs of Groton; she d. June 19, 1864. Two children by first and one by second marriage.

63 1. Mary Augusta, b. March 28, 1837; resides in Ashburnham.

64 2. Sarah Jane, b. Oct. 12, 1842; d. at Groton Sept. 22, 1848.

65 3. Calvin Adams, b. June 12, 1848; d. June 20, 1849.

66 III. *Eliza*, b. Aug. 26, 1810; d. June 10, 1815.

67 IV. *Cyrus Hale*, b. June 6, 1812; d. unmd. Nov. 22, 1882.

68 V. *Joseph*, b. July 26, 1816; d. July 28, 1818.

69 VI. *Joseph*, b. Aug. 2, 1818.+

70 VII. *Eliza Elvira*, b. March 3, 1823; md. April 24, 1845, John M. Dexter, b. 1820, son of Samuel Dexter of Franklin, N. H. She d. at Townsend, *s. p.*, Sept. 27, 1848.

71 VIII. *Sarah Jane*, b. Oct. 6, 1826; md. George G. Rockwood, *q. v.*

(19) EBENEZER ADAMS, son of Capt. Ebenezer Thomas Adams, md. July 13, 1806, Peggy Russell, dau. of Thomas

and Margaret (Adams) Russell, *q. v.* He was a farmer and a citizen of good repute. He d. Dec. 18, 1824. His widow md. (2d) Ensign Asa Woods, *q. v.*

72 I. *Catherine*, b. and d. Nov. 11, 1807.
73 II. *Ivers*, b. Dec. 30, 1808.+
74 III. *Thomas Russell*, b. Aug. 30, 1811.+
75 IV. *James Russell*, b. March 23, 1814. He d. unmd. May 4, 1847. He resided in Washington, D. C., and in Kentucky where he was known as a young man of ability and scholarly attainment.
76 V. *Mary Goodwin*, b. April 13, 1817; md. June 27, 1837, Franklin McIntire, b. Jan. 30, 1813, son of David McIntire of Fitchburg, and subsequently of Springfield, Vt. Mr. McIntire was engaged several years in teaching school, residing in this town and in Fitchburg. She d. in Fitchburg June 17, 1845. He md (2d) Elvira Works and was an extensive farmer in Springfield, Vt. He d. in Charlestown, N. H., where he had resided a short time, March 26, 1886. By the first marriage, there were three children.

77 1. Mary Caroline, b. Dec. 28, 1837; md. Lincoln Whitney, son of Merrick Whitney, *q. v.*
78 2. Catherine, b. April 14, 1839; d. Sept. 2, 1847.
79 3. James F., b. 1841; d. in the war April 20, 1864.

80 VI. *Warren*, b. Feb. 11, 1820; removed to California; d. unmd.

(21) STEPHEN ADAMS, son of Capt. Ebenezer Thomas Adams, md. Oct. 5, 1813, Hannah Wheeler, dau. of John and Hannah Wheeler. He resided in Fitchburg from about 1813 to 1820 and subsequently in Ashby where he d.

81 I. *Laura M.*, b. July, 1814; md. 1832, William Upton of Townsend.

82 1. Stephen W. S., b. 1835; resides in Townsend.
83 2. Sarah Marion, b. 1836; md. Amos A. Green.
84 3. George, d. young.
85 4. George A., b. 1845; resides in Townsend.

86 II. *Hannah E.*, b. May, 1816; md. 1837, William

Sheldon of Ashby. She d. and he md. (2d) Mrs. Mary (Perley) French.

87 1. Mary E., b. May, 1842; d. unmd.
88 2. William Sullivan, b. April, 1845.

89 III. *Mary J.*, b. March, 1818; md. 1844, Stephen Wyman of Ashby.
90 IV. *Stephen S.*, b. June, 1820; md. 1844, Martha Barrett.

91 1. Martha F., b. Oct., 1846.
92 2. Mary A., b. April, 1849.
93 3. Stephen F., b. March, 1859.

94 V. *Harriet W.* (twin), b. June, 1820; md. 1845, Ivers Adams, *q. v.*
95 VI. *Sophronia E.*, b. Oct., 1822; d. young.
96 VII. *George L.*, b. Feb., 1825; md. Adaline Andrews. He resides in Ashby.

97 1. George E., b. April, 1851.
98 2. Addie S., b. May, 1854.

99 VIII. *Martha A.*, b. Aug., 1827; d. unmd.
100 IX. *Sophronia E.*, b. March, 1830; md. 1858, Henry A. Woods.

101 1. Henry R., b. Aug., 1856.
102 2. Guy, b. March, 1866.

(28) JOHN ADAMS, son of Ensign John Adams, md. Oct. 4, 1826, Lucy Caldwell, dau. of John Caldwell, *q. v.*; she d. Aug. 18, 1845. He md. (2d) April 1, 1846, Laura (Constantine) Bennett, dau. of Jacob Constantine, *q. v.*, and widow of Asa Bennett, *q. v.* He d. Jan. 27, 1881. She d. Nov. 14, 1878.

103 I. *Lucy Ann*, b. April 22, 1827; md. April 13, 1847, John H. Danby; reside in Fitchburg. Four children.
104 II. *Infant*, b. and d. May 31, 1829.
105 III. *Infant*, b. and d. July 4, 1831.
106 IV. *George Francis*, b. Jan. 19, 1833; md. Jan. 1, 1856, Rebecca Raymond. Reside at Indianapolis, Ind. Two children.
107 V. *Mary Augusta*, b. Jan. 22, 1835; md. Dec. 9, 1860, Mason J. Osgood; reside at Indianapolis, Ind. Three children.
108 VI. *Ellen Amelia*, b. Dec. 8, 1837; d. Jan. 6, 1854.
109 VII. *Harriet Maria*, b. Feb. 18, 1840; md. June 14,

1860, William A. Hardy of Fitchburg; she d. Aug. 14, 1877. Four children.

110 VIII. *Sarah Elizabeth*, b. Aug. 14, 1842; md. Nov. 20, 1874, Joseph Lee Heywood; he was killed, Sept. 7, 1876, by burglars, in First National Bank, Northfield, Minn. She d. March 15, 1884.

111 IX. *Infant*, b. and d. June 22, 1844.

112 X. *John Wesley*, b. May 17, 1847; md. Ella Stearns; reside in Winchendon. One child.

113 XI. *Isabella M.*, b. April 25, 1849; d. June 3, 1850.

(34) MILTON ADAMS, son of Levi Adams, resided in this town, in Danvers and Brighton, and in the State of New York. He md. Esther Gibson of Ashby; she d. Nov. 5, 1833. There were four children.

114 I. *Samuel G.*, b. Dec. 23, 1825. He md. Martha Stoddard, (2d) Elvira Warren and (3d) Harriet A. Patterson. He was engaged in business until 1861, when he was appointed on the police of the city of Boston. From 1878 to 1885, he ably and faithfully served the city as Superintendent of Police, and when, on account of failing health, he resigned, the Commissioners accepted his resignation with the following expression of their appreciation of his services: "Irreproachable in his private life and incorruptible in the performance of his public duties, Capt. Adams has honored his chosen profession and retires from office respected and esteemed by the community which he has served for so many years." He d. May 15, 1886.

115 II. *Esther P.*, b. June 20, 1828; md. Hosea G. Stone, *q. v.*

116 III. *Roxanna*, b. July 25, 1832; md. Nov. 2, 1851, Lucius H. Sabin of Gardner.

117 IV. *Elizabeth*, resides unmd. in Ashburnham.

(50) JAMES ADAMS, son of James Adams, md. in this town Sept. 20, 1827, Mary B. Whitney, dau. of Ohio Whitney, *q. v.* He was a farmer and a tanner. He established the business in tanning, subsequently conducted by L. B. and A. J. Adams, at Factory Village. In 1849 he removed with his family to Brooklyn, Penn. His wife d. Oct. 29, 1847. He md. (2d) April 12, 1848, Mary H. Smith who d. in Oct., 1884. He d. Dec. 25, 1880. All of his children were b. in this town.

118 I. *Luther B.*, b. Feb. 16, 1829; md. Oct. 13, 1850, Mary B. Samson, dau. of Jonathan Samson, *q. v.* He resides in this town and for several years was local superintendent of the Boston Chair Manufacturing Company.

119 1. Flora Luella, b. Aug. 12; d. Oct. 16, 1857.

120 II. *Dolly*, b. Nov. 9, 1830; d. Aug. 31, 1833.

121 III. *Ohio Whitney*, b. Jan. 9, 1833; md. May 26, 1861, L. Angie Harding. He is a locomotive engineer and resides at New Hampton Junction, N. J.

122 IV. *Francis A.*, b. June 2, 1835; md. Dec. 22, 1860, Catherine Rinehart. He is a locomotive engineer and resides at Lebanon, N. J.

123 V. *James W.*, b. Oct. 21, 1839; md. March 30, 1861, Sarah J. Perry. He is a farmer at Brooklyn, Penn.

124 VI. *Joseph Henry*, b. Dec. 30, 1841; drowned Aug. 4, 1845.

(61) WALTER ADAMS, son of Walter Russell Adams, was a carpenter in this town, and an esteemed citizen. He md. Jan. 1, 1834. Sarah Whitney, dau. of Ohio Whitney, *q. v.* He d. Jan. 7, 1876. Six children.

125 I. *Ivers Whitney*, b. May 20, 1838.+

126 II. *Walter Russell*, b. Feb. 7, 1840. He has been much employed in town affairs and has been actively and successfully engaged in business pursuits. For several years has been a merchant in this town in the firm of Adams & Greenwood. He md. April 21, 1881, Mary Ella Pillsbury, dau. of Dr. Levi Pillsbury of Fitchburg.

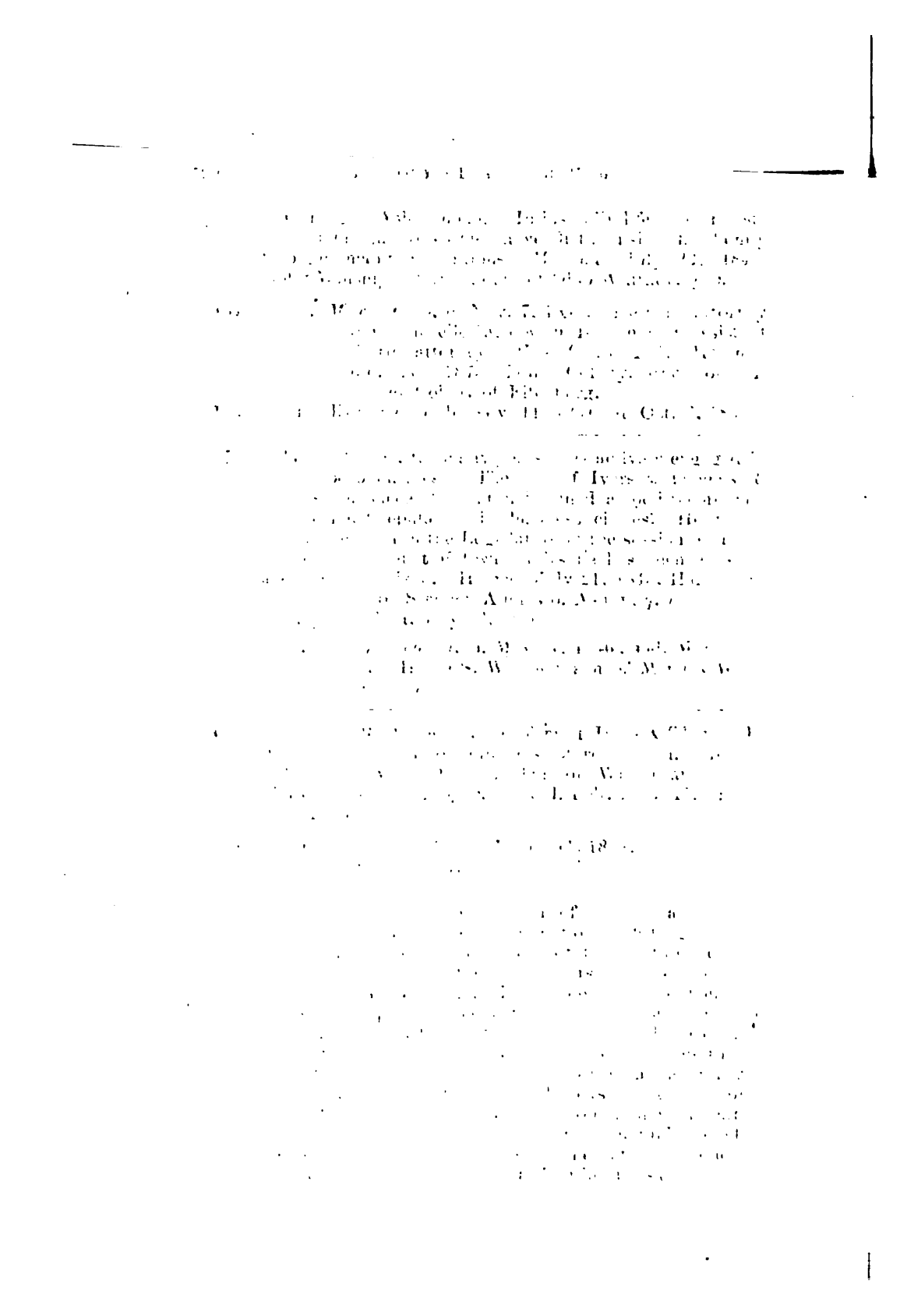
127 III. *Sarah Adelaide*, b. Feb. 26, 1843; md. July 25, 1877, Charles A. Robbins, son of Charles Robbins of Mason, N. H.

128 IV. *Abbie Augusta*, b. Jan. 14, 1846; d. Aug. 27, 1848.

129 V. *Charles Francis*, b. Oct. 21, 1849; d. unmd. Dec. 19, 1876.

130 VI. *Willis Herbert*, b. March 3, 1852; d. Aug. 27, 1853.

(69) JOSEPH ADAMS, son of Walter Russell Adams, was formerly engaged in the morocco business in this town. He is the only grandson of John Adams the centenarian





Isaac W. Adams

remaining in Ashburnham. In his daily life he manifests the reliable qualities which have distinguished his family through many generations. He md. July 22, 1841, Dolly Winship Whitney, dau. of Ohio Whitney, *q. v.*

131 I. *Melvin Ohio*, b. Nov. 7, 1847. He is an attorney and counsellor-at-law in Boston and assistant district-attorney. *Vide* Chap. XX. He md. Jan. 20, 1875, Mary Colony, dau. of Dr. George Colony of Fitchburg.

132 II. *Walter Hale*, b. Nov. 11, 1851; d. Oct. 6, 1852.

(73) IVERS ADAMS, for many years, was actively engaged in the morocco business. The firm of Ivers & Thomas R. Adams was successful and maintained a good record and an excellent reputation in business circles. He represented the town in the Legislature in the session of 1851, and in the conduct of town affairs he has been a useful and reliable citizen. He md. July 21, 1845, Harriet W. Adams, dau. of Stephen Adams of Ashby, *q. v.* She d., leaving one child, July 26, 1846.

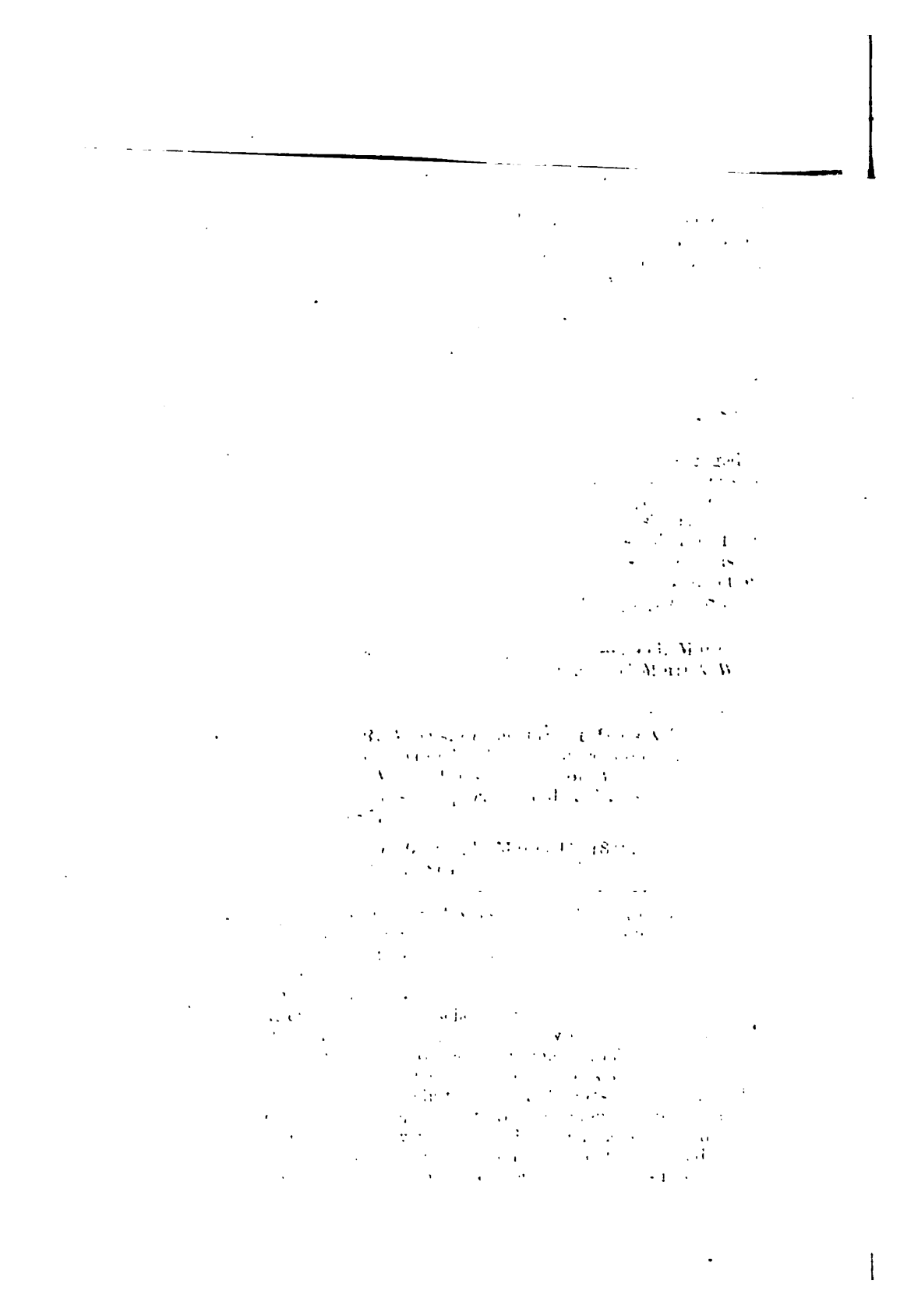
133 I. *Mary Goodwin*, b. May 21, 1846; md. March 31, 1870, Hosea S. Whitney, son of Merrick Whitney, *q. v.*

(74) THOMAS R. ADAMS, of the firm of Ivers & Thomas R. Adams, was a man of unblemished reputation. He md. 1840, Jane Alona Russell, dau. of Walter and Alona (Lawrence) Russell, *q. v.* She d. Feb. 28, 1845. He d. Feb. 11, 1877.

134 I. *Thomas Benton*, b. March 11, 1842. He d. unmd. July 8, 1864.

(126) IVERS WHITNEY ADAMS, son of Walter and Sarah (Whitney) Adams, is a descendant of the fifth generation from Capt. Thomas Adams and of the fourth generation from Silas Whitney, the progenitors of two prominent families of Ashburnham. In his boyhood and youth he attended the public schools of this town and supplemented these limited privileges with a few terms at the academies in this vicinity. In the meantime he found a more rugged employment on the farm and at work with his father at his trade. To train the son in the arts of the trade of a carpenter was the honest, yet mistaken, aim of the father. The youth, however, incited by an honorable ambition and with well-defined dreams of the future, had loftier aims and early aspired to more inviting pursuits. At the







Ivers W. Adams

age of nineteen years he left the parental roof. His only capital was good health, correct habits, a laudable ambition and the blessing of his parents. He found employment with Houghton, Sawyer & Co., a leading dry-goods house of Boston, and was assigned to the carpet department of their business. The first year he received for his service one hundred dollars, the second year one hundred and fifty dollars, and the third year two hundred dollars. With little assistance from his parents he supported himself without indebtedness. It was a modest beginning, but in it appears the pivotal point in the life of Mr. Adams. In these years of toil and self-denial he found a perpetual incentive to broader pursuits. The force of will which has guided his subsequent career restrained the warm activities of youth and tutored him in the mastery of every detail of the business. He remained with his early employers until the carpet department of their business was suspended. Immediately, in 1860, he entered the employ of John H. Pray, Sons & Co. In this house he was rapidly advanced through successive positions, until he became the active member of this firm. The succeeding years of close application and sagacious management developed marked ability in building up and in the general direction of an extensive business. In 1882 he retired from the firm with a competence. It could hardly have been expected that a young and active merchant would long remain in an idle enjoyment of the substantial rewards of success. He was soon enlisted in other pursuits. He purchased a large interest in the American Net and Twine Company, a corporation of solid fame and established reputation. From a director he soon became president of the board and general manager of a corporation that gives employment to five hundred persons and produces a larger annual product than that of any kindred manufactory in the world.

Not yet fifty years of age, it may safely be assumed that the measure of his success in business is not complete, and that years are remaining for the enjoyment and improvement of the rewards of untiring labor. The activities of Mr. Adams have not been exhausted in business pursuits. His ardent enthusiasm attends him in the hours of recreation. For many years he has been interested in the propagation of fish and he was the original purchaser, from the town of Ashburnham, of the lease of Lake Naukeag. He owns extensive salmon fisheries in New Brunswick and shooting grounds in Virginia. He is familiar with the rod and the gun and

finds rest and healthful exercise in congenial sports.

For many years Mr. Adams was connected with the church and parish of Rev. A. A. Miner, D. D., and is now a member of the Grove Hall church, Dorchester. He is chairman of its board of trustees and chairman of the board of directors of the Universalist Club of Boston.

Mr. Adams is a man of genial manners and a ready appreciation of the demands of friendship and society. He combines qualities often found apart, — an ardent temperament and a steady purpose. In business, in the family and in society, his impulses are warm yet steady, and his friendship is strong and enduring. His residence is in Dorchester district, Boston. He md. Oct. 4, 1866, Sarah Elizabeth Shepard, dau. of James and Mary (Belcher) Shepard of Canton. Five of their six children are living.

135 NATHANIEL ADAMS, born about 1745, with his wife Lucy and three children, removed from Stow to this town 1775. If he was related to the other families of Adams in this town, the fact does not appear. His wife d. May 23, 1819, aged 71. He md. (2d) Nov. 17, 1822, Abigail Winchester, widow of —— Winchester; she d. May 22, 1823; he d. Nov. 28, 1823.

136 I. *Lucy.*
137 II. *Nathaniel.*
138 III. *Betty*, bap. 1776; md. Jonas Merriam, *q. v.*
139 IV. *Samuel*, bap. 1779; md. March 19, 1809, Mercy Sherwin, dau. of Capt. Asa Sherwin of Rindge.
140 V. *John*, bap. 1781.
141 VI. *Polly*, bap. 1783.
142 VII. *Patty*, bap. 1789; md. Dec. 12, 1805, Sylvanus Boynton of Winchendon.

1 EBENEZER AGER, son of Ebenezer Ager of Rindge, resided in this town a few years, early in the present century. The name of his wife, probably, was Polly Howe. Two children were b. in this town. He d. in Rindge about 1810.

2 I. *Mary Howe*, b. March 5, 1804.
3 II. *Sophronia*, b. Sept. 24, 1807.

1 DEA. ZENAS ALLEN, son of Benjamin and Asenath (Coleman) Allen, was b. in Ashby Nov. 4, 1805. His mother, Asenath Coleman, was a dau. of Benjamin and Susannah (Martin) Coleman. *Vide* Coleman and Martin registers. He removed to this town in early manhood and

here md. Sept. 11, 1827, Caroline Randall, dau. of David and Betsey (Hastings) Randall, *q. v.* In 1836 he removed to Boston. He now resides in Hyde Park. He was a deacon of the Berkeley Street Congregational church and now of Hyde Park Congregational church. Caroline (Randall) Allen d. March 23, 1869. Dea. Zenas Allen md. (2d) Mrs. Charlotte (Clark) Sanders of New Ipswich, N. H. Two children.

2 I. *Charles Hastings*, b. June 14, 1828.+
3 II. *George Henry*, b. Nov. 22, 1832; md. 1854, Emily A. Boyden, dau. of Samuel and Roxanna Boyden of Boston; md. (2d) 1864, Sarah E. Sylvester, dau. of Robert and Sarah Sylvester of Hanover.

(2) Hon. Charles Hastings Allen, a prominent citizen of Boston, continues a successful and honorable career in business and municipal affairs. In early life he was of the firm of Francis Skinner & Co., and later of the firm of Leland, Allen & Bates. In 1880, retiring from commercial pursuits, he was chosen president of the Home Savings Bank and remains at the head of that well-known and prosperous institution. In municipal and State affairs he has found frequent employment and has served the city and the State with ability and distinction. He was a member of the Common Council, 1867 and 1868, and of the Board of Alderman, 1885 and 1886. He was President of the Council 1868, and is now Chairman of the Board of Aldermen. In 1878, 1879, 1880, he was a representative, and in 1881 and 1882 a member of the Senate. He md. July 2, 1849, Caroline F. Sanders, dau. of George Sanders of New Ipswich, N. H.

1 Stephen Ames and wife, Abigail, are found residing in this town as early as 1761. He was an innholder in 1766, and resided near Rice pond. In 1776 he removed to Cockermouth Grant. This grant included the present town of Groton in New Hampshire, and a part of some of the surrounding towns.

2 I. *Stephen*, b. Oct. 16, 1762.
3 II. *Jeremiah*, b. April 25, 1765.
4 III. *Abigail*, b. Nov. 8, 1767.
5 IV. *Abel*, b. May 8, 1770.
6 V. *Sarah*, b. Dec. 23, 1772.

1 Timothy Angier removed to this town about 1780. He was a son of Benjamin and Sarah Angier and a grandson

of Joseph and Elizabeth Angier of Framingham, where he was b. Feb. 28, 1740. He md. 1766, Mercy Haven, b. in Hopkinton, Nov. 3, 1746, dau. of Joshua and Mary Haven. She d. in this town Oct. 3, 1805; he md. (2d) April 16, 1807, Molly (Ames) Clark, widow of Daniel Clark, *q. v.* There is no reason to presume that all the children are named in the following register.

2 I. *Sally*, b. 1769; d. in this town unmd. Nov. 9, 1857.
3 II. *Patty*, md. Lemuel Kelton, *q. v.*
4 III. *Benjamin.*†
5 IV. *Elijah*, b. about 1775; d. March 12, 1800.
6 V. *Obadiah*, b. 1784; d. April 26, 1795.

(4) BENJAMIN ANGIER resided in this town until 1810. By wife Anna, he had three children, all of whom d. in this town.

7 I. *Elijah*, b. March 5, 1802; d. Sept. 21, 1805.
8 II. *Hollis*, b. Aug. 25, 1804; d. Sept. 22, 1805.
9 III. *Azebath*, b. June 30, 1806; d. June 10, 1808.

1 GEORGE BAKER, b. in Westminster Aug. 27, 1808, removed to this town about 1835. He was a carpenter but was in the employ several years of C. and G. C. Winchester, in the manufacture of chairs. He md. April 27, 1736, Cyrene Kibling, dau. of Henry Kibling, *q. v.* He d. of cancer Jan. 28, 1881. She resides in Lane Village.

2 I. *Charles A.*, b. July 4, 1838; d. June 3, 1854.
3 II. *Mary S.*, b. Oct. 20, 1848; d. same day.

4 BRADISH BAKER, b. in Roxbury Oct. 10, 1808, md. May 14, 1833, Achsah (Bemis) Hart, widow of Lincoln Hart and dau. of Stephen Bemis, *q. v.* They resided in Dover and in Needham and since 1855 have lived in this town.

5 I. *George L.*, b. Feb. 17, 1834. Conductor on Baltimore and Ohio R. R.; resides in Chicago.
6 II. *Eliza J.*, b. Feb. 28, 1836; md. April 27, 1874, Shubael Ross Herrick, *q. v.*
7 III. *John L.*, b. April 13, 1839; d. Jan. 18, 1853.
8 IV. *Edwin Thompson*, b. Oct. 20, 1843; a machinist; d. in Fitchburg, Feb. 12, 1882.

9 DANFORTH N. BAKER, son of Stephen and Desire (Davis) Baker, was b. in Woodstock, Conn., June 6,

1828, and removed in early life to this town where he md. May 29, 1860, Salura Brooks, dau. of Ira Brooks, *q. v.* Resides in Chapel street.

10 I. *Addie*, b. Jan. 29, 1863.
11 II. *Ida E.*, b. March 28, 1866; d. Sept 16, 1869.

12 E. J. BOARDMAN BAKER, son of Jacob and Nabby (Perkins) Baker, was b. in Enosburg, Vt., Feb. 27, 1821. He md. in Fitchburg, Dec. 3, 1846, Martha A. (Kinsman) Perkins, widow of William Perkins. At that time they removed to this town where she d. Sept. 9, 1882. There were four children of William and Martha A. Perkins, and one of E. J. B. and Martha A. Baker.

13 I. *Harriet (Perkins)*, b. May 18, 1835.
14 II. *Everett W. (Perkins)*, b. Aug. 26, 1837.
15 III. *Emily M. (Perkins)*, b. Jan. 27, 1840.
16 IV. *Frances H. (Perkins)*, d. Jan. 3, 1871.
17 V. *Eva E.*, b. July 28, 1854; resides with her parents.

1 BARNARD BALDWIN resided in the north part of the town. In 1818 he removed to Rindge where he d. June 4, 1830. He was a farmer and a blacksmith and had a shop near the house where Aaron B. Bixby resides. The name of his wife was Mary, but no record of his marriage has been found. Perhaps all the children are not named.

2 I. *Elizabeth*, b. Feb. 8, 1795; md. Benjamin Hartwell, son of Benjamin and Sarah (Sanderson) Hartwell.
3 II. *Sarah*, b. Jan. 23, 1797.
4 III. *Samuel*, b. Feb. 11, 1800; md. Mary F. Cook, dau. of John Cook, *q. v.* He resided several years on the Frederick Crosby place. He d. Aug. 6, 1862; she d. April 27, 1875. A dau., Abigail, md. 1854, Luther P. Reed of Littleton; md. (2d) 1877, John Q. Kinson of this town.
5 IV. *Joseph*.

BANCROFT.

The Bancrofts of this town were from Gardner. The name appears continuously in the records since 1828. Harvey M. Bancroft and his cousin, Jonathan O. Bancroft, are of the seventh generation of their family in this country. The emigrant ancestor, Lieut. Thomas Bancroft, was b. in England 1622. In 1647, then a resident of Dedham, he md. Alice Bacon, who soon d.; he md. (2d) Sept. 15, 1648, Elizabeth Metcalf, and removed about 1650 to Reading, and subsequently to Lynnfield, where he d. Aug. 19, 1691. He was a prominent man of his time, and the records bear frequent

and honorable mention of his name. The eldest son, Dea. Thomas Bancroft, was b. in Dedham, Sept. 24, 1649. He removed to Reading, where he md. April 10, 1673, Sarah Poole, dau. of Jonathan Poole. He was a lieutenant, and is mentioned in "Mather's Magnolia" as having saved the garrison at Exeter from an assault by the Indians. He d. July 12, 1718; his widow d. May 20, 1723. Their second son, Raham Bancroft, was b. in Reading Feb. 14, 1684. He md. Abigail Eaton, and (2d) Ruth Kendall. He was a prominent citizen and a deacon of the church. He d. 1758, aged 74 years, and to the record of his death his pastor appends — "That good man, my friend, Dea. Bancroft." Of his eight children, David Bancroft, a son by first wife, was b. in Reading Aug. 2, 1718. About 1740 he removed to Ward, now Auburn. He served in the French and Indian War, was a deacon, also a representative in the Provincial Congress 1774. He md. Eunice Bancroft, dau. of John and Mary (Clark) Bancroft of Lynnfield. He d. at Auburn April 16, 1782. Jonathan, the sixth child of David Bancroft, was b. in May, 1750. He removed to Templeton, now Gardner, 1772, and there md. Aug. 30, 1774, Sarah Case of Sutton, who was the mother of all his children. She d. Feb. 17, 1816, and he md. (2d) 1817, Widow Elizabeth Bancroft of Phillipston. He served in the Revolution and was in the battles of Stillwater and Saratoga 1777. He d. suddenly Sept. 25, 1826. Smyrna Bancroft, son of Jonathan and Mary (Case) Bancroft, was b. May 15, 1776. He was nine years of age when Gardner was incorporated, and was subsequently a selectman and assessor of that town. He md. Sarah Whitney, dau. of William and Mary (Mansfield) Whitney of Winchendon. He d. in Gardner Aug. 5, 1818. His son Harvey M. Bancroft for many years has resided in this town. Jonathan Bancroft, Jr., a brother of Smyrna, was b. in Templeton, now Gardner, Feb. 7, 1775. He md. Betsey Parker of Westford. He resided in Gardner, but his farm extended over the line into this town. He d. 1840. Three of his children have resided in this town. His son, Jonathan O. Bancroft, is number 4 in the following register. Another son, Dr. Jesse P. Bancroft, for many years the able superintendent of the Asylum for the Insane at Concord, N. H., resided with his brother a few years and from this town entered upon the active labors of a useful life. Sophia Bancroft, the wife of John C. Glazier, was a sister of Jonathan O. and Dr. Jesse P. Bancroft.

1 HARVEY M. BANCROFT, son of Smyrna and Sarah (Whitney) Bancroft, was b. May 1, 1803. He md. May 1, 1828, Betsey C. Glazier, dau. of Lewis and Lucy (Keyes) Glazier. The same year he removed to this town. Through a prolonged and blameless life he has lived in peace and has had no contention with his fellowmen.

2 I. *James H.*, b. April 1, 1829; md. May 29, 1855, N. Rebecca Laws of Westminster; she d. Nov. 1, 1879. Mr. Bancroft is a lawyer in Worcester.

3 II. *Sarah W.*, b. Sept. 1, 1831; md. April 13, 1852, Samuel G. Piper of Lynn, where she d. July 13, 1861.

4 JONATHAN O. BANCROFT, son of Jonathan, Jr., and Betsey (Parker) Bancroft, was b. Sept. 12, 1806. For a few years he was associated with his brother-in-law, John C. Glazier, in the manufacture of chairs at the

South Village, and subsequently removed to the Centre Village and became a partner in the chair business conducted by Woods, Stevens & Co. In 1833 he removed to Boston and was there engaged in the furniture trade. He md. Sept. 15, 1830, Lucinda Corey, dau. of Stephen Corey, *q. v.*

1 WILLIAM BARRELL, b. in Scituate Feb. 5, 1776, md. April 18, 1802, Deborah Chittenden, and very soon after his marriage he removed to the north part of Westminster. A few years subsequently his farm was annexed to Ashburnham and he remained in this town until his death Oct. 5, 1860; she d. March 25, 1852. Her name was written Abigail in the records and also Deborah.

2 I. *William*, b. July 7, 1803; d. unmd. in Ashburnham Feb. 7, 1850.

3 II. *Maria*, b. Nov. 12, 1804; md. May 5, 1828, Nathan Wood of Westminster; she d. April 8, 1850.

4 III. *Nahum*, b. April 9, 1807; md. Dec. 3, 1835, Martha A. Hinds. He resided in Westminster where he d. Dec. 20, 1874.

5 1. Lucy, b. Aug. 4, 1840; md. Nov. 21, 1861, George Dalrymple; md. (2d) Oct. 13, 1878, H. E. Smith; reside in Granby.

6 2. Ruana, b. Nov. 7. 1842; md. Chas. W. Whitney, 2d, *q. v.*

7 3. William, b. Oct. 5, 1850; d. April 23, 1864.

8 IV. *Betsey*, b. March 6, 1810; d. unmd. May 6, 1847.

9 V. *Lucy*, b. Jan. 10, 1812; d. April 9, 1814.

10 VI. *James*, b. June 11, 1817; md. Mrs. Abbie Smith of Leominster.

11 JOHN BARRELL, son of John Barrell of Westminster, md. Oct. 21, 1829, Caroline Crosby, dau. of Frederick Crosby, *q. v.*, and from that date he resided in this town until he d. Aug. 22, 1841, aged 36 years.

12 I. *Nelson*, b. Dec. 9, 1830; resides in Fitchburg.

13 II. *John Francis*, b. July 23, 1832.

14 III. *Otis*, b. Feb. 23, 1835; md. 1857, Elvira L. Pratt; resides in Westminster.

15 IV. *Elmer*, b. May 16, 1837.

16 JOSEPH BENSON BARRELL, son of Dea. Luther Barrell of Westminster, was b. Dec. 28, 1822; md. Nov. 4, 1845, Harriet Elmira May, dau. of Sumner May, *q. v.* They resided in south part of the town and also in Westminster. He d. Oct. 22, 1881; she resides at South Village.

17 I. *Tyler*, b. May 26, 1847; d. 1848.

18 II. *Joseph R.*, b. April 13, 1849; md. Nov. 28, 1871, Rosetta Petts of Westminster; resides at South Village.

19 III. *Herman*, b. April 5, 1851; md. Sevrina N. Hill; resides in Iowa.

20 IV. *Frank*, b. July 26, 1853; md. Nov. 27, 1878, Nellie Whitney, dau. of Jonas M. Whitney of Westminster; resides at South Village.

21 V. *Minnetta E.*, b. Nov. 29, 1855; md. John H. Alcott of Waltham. She d. July 19, 1882.

22 VI. *Hattie Flora*, b. March 8, 1857; md. Charles Wood, son of Stephen Wood, *q. v.*

BARRETT.

Early in the present century, the brothers Benjamin, Charles and Oliver Barrett removed to this town. They were b. in Ashby. About 1808 Joel Barrett, a distant relative, removed from Townsend. Their descendants are numerous and merit honorable mention in the annals of Ashburnham. In the following record of the lineage of the Barrett families, I am indebted to J. H. Potter of Concord.

In 1640 Humphrey Barrett, with three sons, came from England and settled in Concord. He d. 1662, aged 70; his wife Mary d. Aug. 15, 1663. Humphrey Barrett, Jr., b. in England 1630, md. in Concord July 17, 1661, Elizabeth Payne who d. Dec. 21, 1674; he md. (2d) March 23, 1675, Mary Potter, dau. of Dea. Luke and Mary Edmands Potter. He was a deacon of the church in Concord and d. Jan. 3, 1716, aged 86. Mary, his wife, d. Nov. 17, 1713, aged 58. Benjamin, the second son of Dea. Humphrey and Mary (Potter) Barrett, b. May 7, 1681, md. Jan. 3, 1705, Lydia Minot; he d. Oct. 25, 1728, and she md. (2d) Samuel Stow. Benjamin, the oldest of the eight children of Benjamin and Lydia (Minot) Barrett, b. Nov. 15, 1705, md. Rebecca Jones. He d. Oct. 23, 1738, and she md. (2d) Dec. 22, 1740, Jonas Prescott of Westford. Of the four children of Benjamin and Rebecca (Jones) Barrett, Benjamin and Jonas settled in Ashby. Benjamin, b. Jan 9, 1735, md. Nov. 24, 1761, Sarah Merriam of Lexington; he md. (2d) Feb. 18, 1786, Hannah Jones who d. Dec. 8, 1831. He d. Sept. 14, 1811. There were six children of Benjamin and Sarah (Merriam) Barrett of whom the oldest was Benjamin, b. June 21, 1762. He md. Bridget Lawrence, who d. 1793. He md. (2d) 1794, Rhoda (Stearns) Wheeler, dau. of Thomas and Betty (Manning) Stearns and widow of Amos Wheeler. There were seven children by the first and two by the second marriage. These children were of the seventh generation in America. The continued record of Benjamin, Col. Charles and Oliver, sons of Benjamin and Bridget (Lawrence) Barrett is given in the following register.

Joel Barrett, who came from Mason, N. H., to Ashburnham about the same time, was a distant relative. His lineage is traced from Thomas another son of Humphrey, the emigrant ancestor. This son Thomas and wife Margaret resided in Chelmsford where he d. Aug. 8, 1668. Joseph, son of

Thomas and grandson of Humphrey the emigrant, md. Sept. 17, 1672, Martha Gould who d. May 15, 1698. He d. 1711. Joseph, son of Joseph, was b. in Chelmsford Feb. 24, 1690; he md. March 24, 1714, Mary Taylor. Of their eight children Reuben was b. 1729. He md. June 19, 1750, Sarah Fletcher of Chelmsford and removed to Northborough, and subsequently to Mason, N. H., where he d. Sept. 19, 1800. His son, Joel Barrett, of the sixth generation, resided in Ashburnham and is number 37 in the following register.

1 BENJAMIN BARRETT, son of Benjamin and Bridget (Lawrence) Barrett, was b. in Ashby June 18, 1786. He removed to this town 1807, and md. Feb. 7, 1809, Nancy Stone, dau. of Oliver Stone, *q. v.* He served in the War of 1812. In 1830 he removed to Fitchburg, and subsequently to Newport, N. H., where he d. Aug. 3, 1837. His widow d. 1866.

2 I. *Oliver Stone*, b. Dec. 9, 1809; d. Nov. 10, 1810.

3 II. *Nancy Stone*, b. Dec. 14, 1811; d. Sept. 17, 1828.

4 III. *Joseph*, b. Jan. 13, 1813; md. Feb. 10, 1840, Louisa Newton of Newport, N. H. He resides in Lunenburg. Five children.

5 IV. *Mary*, b. Aug. 24, 1815; d. Nov. 8, 1816.

6 V. *Mary*, b. July 26, 1817; md. Dec. 31, 1839, Samuel Dexter Smith; she d. Dec. 31, 1839.

7 VI. *Lucy*, b. June 28, 1819; md. June 14, 1842, Martin Johnson. They reside in Lunenburg. Five children.

8 VII. *Ephraim S.*, b. Aug. 24, 1821; d. Nov. 20, 1821.

9 VIII. *Benjamin*, b. Oct. 4, 1822; d. April 24, 1823.

10 IX. *Edward S.*, b. Feb. 17, 1824; md. June 23, 1860, Nancy Brigham; resides at Concord, N. H.

11 X. *Julia M.*, b. March 8, 1826; md. April 9, 1849, Samuel C. White; reside at Bergen Point, N. J. Four children.

12 XI. *Caroline*, b. Feb. 15, 1828; md. June 25, 1851, Francis A. White. Reside in Brookline. Four children.

13 COL. CHARLES BARRETT, son of Benjamin and Bridget (Lawrence) Barrett, was b. in Ashby Feb. 21, 1788. He md. in this town Sept. 19, 1811, Sarah Hastings, dau. of Charles Hastings, *q. v.;* she d. May 7, 1815, and he md. (2d) Aug. 5, 1816, Betsey Johnson, dau. of Ephraim Johnson of Leominster. She was b. in West Newbury May 1, 1799, and d. Nov. 19, 1862. He d. June 8, 1885, aged 97 years. Col. Barrett removed to Ashburnham 1809 and resided here through a prolonged and useful life. He was urbane, affable and kind. He adhered firmly to his own convictions and opinions, yet his course

in social and public affairs was tempered with forbearance and an appreciative regard for the opinion and wishes of his associates. Manifesting at all times a deep interest in the welfare and prosperity of the town, he was a steadfast and consistent promoter of social reform and public enterprise. He was frequently elected to positions of trust and his name is many times repeated in the list of town officers. He represented the town in the Legislature in 1827, 1828 and 1843. He was commander of the Ashburnham Light Infantry and colonel of the Ninth Regiment of Militia. His military record and that of his brothers and sons appear in Chapters XVIII and XIX.

14 I. *Charles Hastings*, b. June 22, 1812; md. March 17, 1836, Emma H. Flint, dau. of Ebenezer Flint, *q. v.*; she d. May 25, 1865; he md. (2d) 1868, Ann Eliza (Alden) Gardner, widow of William Gardner. He resides in Norwood and is proprietor of Norwood House.

15 II. *Sarah Jewett*, b. Jan. 28, 1814; md. Mirick Stimson, *q. v.*

16 III. *Francis Johnson*, b. Aug. 7, 1817.+

17 IV. *Elizabeth Follansbee*, b. Sept. 21, 1819; d. Aug. 27, 1837.

18 V. *Almira Childs*, b. Feb. 12, 1823; d. Aug. 25, 1837.

19 VI. *George Henry*, b. Nov. 28, 1833.+

20 OLIVER BARRETT, a brother of Benjamin and Col. Charles Barrett, was b. in Ashby Jan. 31, 1790. He md. Jan. 14, 1812, Betsey Stone, dau. of Oliver Stone, *q. v.* In 1832 he removed to Lowell and subsequently to Shirley. His wife d. Sept. 20, 1842, and he md. (2d) 1843, Mrs. Sophia Wheeler. He d. in Shirley Feb. 8, 1880. He was a deacon of the Baptist church thirty years and a useful citizen. Twelve children by first marriage; one by second marriage d. in infancy.

21 I. *Oliver Stone*, b. July 13, 1812; md. Sept. 2, 1834, Lucy Wyman; md. (2d) Josephine Clark; residence Malden.

22 II. *John Otis*, b. April 18, 1815; md. April 13, 1839, Harriet S. Richardson, who d. Dec. 19, 1873; resides in Townsend.

23 III. *Cynthia Eliza*, b. March 24, 1817; md. Sept 24, 1843, Joseph J. Waters; she d. June 1, 1862.

24 IV. *George Benjamin*, b. May 10, 1819; md. Nov. 24, 1857, Nancy Haradon who d. Aug. 2, 1861. He md. (2d) Anna Potter; he d. about 1870.

25 v. *Clarissa Davis*, b. May 22, 1821; md. Adolphus Priest; resides in Shirley.
26 vi. *Thomas Parker*, b. July 5, 1823; md. March 26, 1848, Sophia Sawtelle. He d. in Malden Jan. 27, 1872.
27 vii. *Ephraim Cobleigh*, b. July 26, 1825; md. Martha Tenney of Littleton; she d. July 17, 1877. He md. (2d) Mrs. Hannah Nutting. Resides in Waltham.
28 viii. *Emily Augusta*, b. Aug. 8, 1827; d. July 30, 1829.
29 ix. *Henry A.*, b. Sept. 7, 1830; d. Jan. 2, 1831.
30 x. *Emily Ann*, b. Nov. 14, 1831; md. William H. Potter of Fitchburg.
31 xi. *Nancy Stone*, b. May 2, 1835; md. April 17, 1857, Oliver Norris who d. May 12, 1862; she md. (2d) Amasa Whitney; resides in New Bedford.
32 xii. *Owen Tracey*, b. Oct. 5, 1838; md. Louisa Stone. He d. in Shirley Nov. 5, 1879.

(16) Col. Francis Johnson Barrett, son of Col. Charles Barrett, was a merchant and manufacturer. He was of the firm of Corey, Barrett & Kibling. They owned the mill now of Robert W. McIntire and a chair factory on Water street. The store was where Mrs. Winchester now resides. Col. Barrett was a man of generous impulses and enjoyed the merited regard of his associates. He was prominent in military affairs and at an early age rose to the command of his regiment. He md. May 7, 1839, Nancy Bemis, dau. of William Bemis, *q. v.* He d. Oct. 10, 1851; she d. Dec. 10, 1864.

33 1. *Emma Almira*, b. Sept. 13, 1840; md. John H. Wilkins, *q. v.*
34 ii. *Charles Francis*, b. April 13, 1842; d. July 4, 1843.
35 iii. *Lizzie F.*, b. April 7, 1846; resides in Ashburnham.

(19) Col. George H. Barrett, son of Col. Charles Barrett, resides in this town and is proprietor of the grain-mill on Water street. He was Lieut.-Col. of the 53d Regiment, Mass. Infantry, and represented the district in the Legislature in the session of 1869. Since 1873 he has been a member of the Board of Trustees of Cushing Academy and Secretary of the Board since 1876. He md. Nov. 30, 1854, Mary S. Greenwood, dau. of Edmund R. and Susan H. (Slocomb) Greenwood of Hubbardston.

36 i. *Grace Greenwood*, b. July 16, 1861; d. May 7, 1881.

37 JOEL BARRETT, son of Reuben and Sarah (Fletcher) Barrett, was b. in Mason, N. H. He md. Oct. 22, 1793, Mercy Townsend, dau. of Samuel and Hannah (Lawrence) Townsend. She was b. in Northborough, but her parents removed to Mason previous to her marriage. She was a sister of the wives of Samuel Dunster. Mr. Barrett removed to this town previous to 1802. She d. April 3, 1823, aged 48 years, and he md. (2d) May 31, 1827, Judith Green. He d. March 19, 1841. Of the children of Joel and Mercy (Townsend) Barrett, there is no record of birth. In 1815 six were bap. Possibly all are not named below.

38 i. *Joel*, b. about 1794; md. April 12, 1818, Hannah Marble, dau. of Oliver Marble, *q. v.* He d. Nov. 30, 1820. She md. (2d) Joseph Miller, *q. v.* One child.

39 1. Joel, bap. 1820.

40 ii. *Hannah*, b. 1796; d. Sept. 29, 1810.

41 iii. *Samuel*, b. Aug. 14, 1798.+

42 iv. *Sarah Fletcher*, b. June 17, 1801; md. Sept. 24, 1823, John Emory, son of Francis and Eunice (Philbrick) Emory of Winchendon. She d. May 9, 1830, leaving three children.

43 1. Jane, md. Henry O. Blanchard; removed to Wisconsin.

44 2. Maria, md. David M. Parker; removed to Wisconsin.

45 3. Justin, md. Elizabeth Barber.

46 v. *Townsend*, b. 1804.+

47 vi. *Betsey*, md. April 10, 1835, Joseph White of Worcester.

48 vii. *Reuben*, md. Sept. 3, 1835, Rebecca Crombie, dau. of James and Mary (Wright) Crombie of Rindge; he d. in Amherst 1870.

49 viii. *Hannah Dunster*, b. July 11, 1812; md. March 8, 1832, Calvin Learned of Dublin, N. H., son of John W. and Hannah (Wright) Learned.

(41) SAMUEL BARRETT was an active citizen. Postmaster several years and engaged in several business affairs. He md. Sept. 3, 1826, Nancy G. Lawrence, dau. of Dea.

William J. Lawrence, *q. v.* He d. Oct. 26, 1851. She resides in Springfield, Ohio.

50 I. *Edwin Lawrence*, b. Aug. 20, 1827; md. Jan. 4, 1848, Sarah B. Petts, dau. of Dr. John Petts; she d. Oct. 18, 1865. He md. (2d) March 18, 1867, Clara D. Husley, dau. of William Husley of Nashville, Tenn. He resides in Springfield, Ohio, and in connection with two of his sons is a stationer and publisher. Eight children.

51 II. *Elvira Elizabeth*, b. July 3, 1829; d. June 10, 1832.

52 III. *Ellen Maria*, b. Aug. 16, 1831; md. April 27, 1852, Rev. Edward W. Root; md. (2d) Aug. 30, 1865, J. W. Van Sickle. Resides in Springfield, Ohio.

(46) TOWNSEND BARRETT was a farmer in this town. He md. Jan. 23, 1830, Sarah Wheeler of Templeton; she d. Dec. 22, 1846, and he md. (2d) Elvira Stowell, dau. of Moses Stowell, *q. v.* He. d. April 10, 1871. His widow resides in this town.

53 I. *Nancy C.*, b. Oct. 22, 1830; md. Jan. 1, 1850, Charles N. Scollay, *q. v.*

54 II. *Charles S.*, b. March 25, 1833; d. Oct. 31, 1846.

55 III. *Eliza A.*, b. April 9, 1835; md. C. W. Upham.

56 IV. *George W.*, b. Nov. 14, 1837.

57 V. *Hannah E.*, b. Oct. 31, 1839.

58 VI. *J. Frank*, b. Jan. 16, 1841; was killed at the battle of Cold Harbor, June 3, 1864.

59 VII. *Abbie*, b. June 20, 1844; d. Dec. 29, 1846.

Children of second wife:

60 VIII. *Laura*, md. 1867, George W. Whipple.

61 IX. *Emily*, md. 1868, Frederick R. Whipple.

62 X. *Mary*, b. Sept. 21, 1856; md. Arthur Lamb of Templeton.

63 XI. *Susan*, b. June 9, 1858; d. Dec. 19, 1874.

64 XII. *Eddie*, b. Oct. 3, 1860; d. Jan. 1, 1861.

65 XIII. *Helen*, b. April 14, 1863.

66 XIV. *Herbert S.*, b. Jan. 24, 1869.

1 JOHN BATES was one of the early settlers of Ashburnham. He removed from Westford to the northeast part of the town about 1750. He was one of the original members of the church, and at the first election of town officers he was chosen an assessor. When Ashby was incorporated in 1767 his land was included within the limits of that town. He md. in Westford Jan. 7, 1744,

Martha Foster of Littleton. A dau. Martha was bap. in Lunenburg Aug. 6, 1749, but no further record of this family has been found.

BEALS.

This name was generally written Beal or Beale by the early generations of the family in America, and many branches of the family still retain the original form. The town of Hingham was settled largely by emigrants from Hingham in the county of Norfolk, England. The ship Diligent, John Martin, master, brought a number of families who were prominent in the early annals of Hingham and whose descendants are found in nearly every hamlet in our country.

John Beal, while a resident of Hingham, England, md. Nazareth Hobart, a sister of Rev. Edmund Hobart, the first minister of Hingham in New England. With his wife and eight children he sailed in the Diligent in 1638. In the same vessel came the emigrant ancestor of the Cushing families of Ashburnham. Mr. Beal was admitted freeman in March, 1639. His wife d. Sept. 23, 1658; he md. (2d) March 10, 1658–9, Mrs. Mary Jacob, widow of Nicholas Jacob. She d. 1681, and he, at the age of 100 years, d. April 1, 1688.

Lieut. Jeremiah Beal, his son, was b. in England 1631; md. Nov. 18, 1652, Sarah Ripley, dau. of William Ripley of Hingham. He d. Aug. 10, 1716; his wife d. June 20, 1715. Of their seven children the eldest, Jeremiah, Jr., b. May 13, 1655, md. May 22, 1677, Hannah Lane, dau. of Andrew Lane. He was a farmer and a blacksmith; d. at Hingham April 21, 1703; his wife, surviving him, d. Sept. 19, 1719. Andrew Beal, son of Jeremiah and Hannah (Lane) Beal, b. Jan. 27, 1685–6, md. Dec. 14, 1715, Rachel Bates, dau. of Joshua Bates. They had four sons and one daughter. The youngest son was Abel Beal, b. 1737; md. March 11, 1755, Deborah Lambert. He d. April 20, 1809; she d. Oct. 1, 1810. They had ten children. In this lineage all the generations to this date resided in Hingham.

Cohasset was created out of a part of Hingham in 1770, and Abel Beal resided in the new town after that date. Stowers Beals, youngest son of Abel and Deborah (Lambert) Beal, was the first in this line of descent to write the name with the additional letter. He was b. in Hingham March 20, 1767, and resided in Cohasset after he was three years of age, and until he removed to Winchendon. He md. Mary Leavitt of Hingham He. d. May 23, 1821. His widow d. June 20, 1839. They had four children.

1 GEORGE LEAVITT BEALS, son of Stowers and Mary (Leavitt) Beals, was b. in Winchendon Oct. 11, 1800. He md. Jan. 11, 1827, Nancy Norcross, b. Jan. 13, 1806, dau. of Capt. Daniel and Polly (Jones) Norcross of Rindge. In 1836 he bought the farm and a large tract of timber land of Frederick Crosby and removed to this town. He built a mill on the premises and was engaged in the manufacture of lumber until he sold the property in 1847 to the Burrage Bros. and soon after returned to Winchendon. His wife d. Oct. 25, 1881. He d. June 5, 1886. Two of their seven children were b. in this town.

2 1. *Mary Leavitt*, b. Nov. 20, 1827; md. Jan. 3, 1849, John M. Whitney, son of Hananiah and

Sarah (Beaman) Whitney of Winchendon. He d. Dec. 2, 1883; she d. May 14, 1883. Two children.

3 II. *George Leavitt*, b. Jan. 11, 1830.+

4 III. *Nancy Elizabeth*, b. Sept. 21, 1831; d. April 27, 1833.

5 IV. *Infant*, b. and d. July 23, 1833.

6 V. *Charles Leavitt*, b. May 6, 1835; md. Jan. 23, 1869, Harriet Martha Brown, b. April 9, 1845, dau. of George and Harriet E. (Osgood) Brown of Winchendon. He is treasurer of Savings Bank and for many years cashier of First National Bank of Winchendon.

7 VI. *Nancy Elizabeth*, b. April 26, 1837; d. May 4, 1855.

8 VII. *Martha Ellen*, b. April 14, 1844; d. Jan. 31, 1857.

(3) GEORGE L. BEALS, b. Jan. 11, 1830, md. Jan. 1, 1852, Lydia Farrar, dau. of John and Calla (Stearns) Farrar, *q. v.* He resides in the west part of the town and occupies a portion of the property formerly owned by his father, and is engaged in the manufacture of lumber. Two children.

9 I. *Frank Leavitt*, b. Jan. 21, 1854; md. Oct. 11, 1877, Nellie Isadore Kimball, b. Feb. 15, 1855, dau. of John A. and C. Anna (Corey) Kimball.

10 II. *John Farrar*, b. Feb. 23, 1860; md. Nov. 26, 1886, Edith Whitney Day, b. June 27, 1866, dau. of Daniel and Jennie (Parkhurst) Day of Winchendon.

BEMIS.

JOSEPH BEMIS, b. in England 1619, settled in Watertown previous to 1640. He was a selectman 1648, 1672 and 1675. He d. Aug. 7, 1684. The name of his wife was Sarah, but no record of the marriage is found; she d. about 1712. Among the nine children of Joseph and Sarah Bemis was Joseph, Jr., b. Dec. 12, 1651. So far as known no record of his family is preserved.

Philip Bemis was probably his son. This Philip Bemis, b. about 1700, is found residing in Cambridge from 1723 to 1738. He md. Nov. 21, 1723, Elizabeth Lawrence and removed to Westminster in 1738. He was the third settler in that town and a man of influence and character. The youngest of six children was Zaccheus, bap. in Cambridge July 25, 1736. Zaccheus Bemis md. Elizabeth Lyon and lived in Westminster where he d. 1804. Among his children was Stephen Bemis who removed to this town and is number 1 in the following register. Another son of Zaccheus was William Bemis, b. Jan. 11, 1777; md. Nov. 23, 1799, Hannah Derby, dau of John and Hannah (Garey) Derby. She was b. in Westminster Nov. 17, 1781. He was a farmer and a blacksmith in Westminster where he d. Oct. 8, 1835. His widow d. in this town Aug. 12, 1861. Of their eleven children several have resided in this town. William is number 13 and John is number 16 in following record; Lorette md. Brigham Wallace, *q. v.;* Hannah md. Alvin Kendall, *q. v.;* Nancy md. Col. Francis J. Barrett, *q. v.;* and Ruth md. Charles F. Johnson, *q. v.*

There are other families of Bemis in this town whose lineage is traced through other branches of the same general family. Albert T. Bemis is a descendant of John Bemis the youngest son of Joseph Bemis the emigrant. John, the son, was b. in Watertown in Aug., 1659. He md., about 1680, Mary Harrington, dau. of George and Susannah Harrington: she d. Sept. 8, 1716. He md. (2d) Feb. 27, 1716–17, Sarah (Holland) Phillips, widow of Jonathan Phillips, and (3d) May 30, 1726, Judith (Jennison) Barnard, widow of James Barnard and dau. of Samuel and Judith (Macomber) Jennison. He resided many years in Watertown and owned lands in Marlborough, but no record of his death has been found. His first wife was the mother of his fourteen children. Of these John Bemis was b. Oct. 6, 1686. He md. May 8, 1710, Hannah Warren, b. Jan. 25, 1690–1, dau. of Daniel and Elizabeth (Whitney) Warren. He md. (2d) April 2, 1713, Anna Livermore, b. 1690, dau. of Samuel and Anna (Bridge) Livermore. John Bemis, the eldest of the thirteen children of John and Anna (Livermore) Bemis, was b. in Watertown Feb. 11, 1711–12. He removed to Weston where he md. Feb. 16, 1731–2, Hannah Warren, b. April 28, 1715, dau. of Capt. Daniel and Hannah (Bigelow) Warren. The eldest of their twelve children was John Bemis, b. Aug. 28, 1732. He removed to Sudbury and md., about 1754, Abigail Sanders, and in Sudbury the following children were b.: Jonas, b. 1757; Jason, b. 1759; Silas, b. 1760; Amos, b. 1763; Abigail, b. 1764; Reuben, Abel and John. About 1780 the parents, John and Abigail Bemis, with their children, removed from Sudbury to Winchendon. The son Jonas had served in the Revolution previous to their removal. He md. Catherine Tower of Sudbury and subsequently removed from Winchendon to Royalston where he d. 1831. Jonas Bemis, son of Jonas and Catherine (Tower) Bemis, was b. in Winchendon Aug. 11, 1788. He md. May 13, 1813, Mercy Burgess, dau. of Ebenezer Burgess of Ashburnham. He removed to Royalston where he d. June 24, 1824. His widow md. (2d) William Whitney, *q. v.* Albert T. Bemis, who is number 20 in the following register, is of the eighth generation in this line of descent from Joseph Bemis the emigrant.

Another lineage of this family is represented by Justin W. Bemis. He is a descendant of John Bemis named above who was b. 1686. Elisha Bemis, son of this John by the second wife Anna Livermore, was b. March 20, 1725–6; he md. Feb. 15, 1748–9, Lucy Elton of Lexington. His son, Elisha Bemis, Jr., b. 1753, md. Anna Newton and removed to Southboro where he d. 1817. Elijah Bemis, his son, b. June 28, 1778, md. Oct. 9, 1805, Sally Woolson. He d. Aug. 1, 1844. Elijah Bemis, his son, b. in Southboro Feb. 20, 1815, removed to Northboro; he md. March 20, 1840, Susan Newton; she d. June 16, 1845; he md. (2d) Feb. 28, 1846, Julia A. Newton. Among their children is Justin W. Bemis of this town who is of the eighth generation from Joseph the emigrant.

1 STEPHEN BEMIS, son of Zaccheus and Elizabeth (Lyon) Bemis, was b. in Westminster March 16, 1768; md. 1796, Achsah Pollard, dau. of William Pollard, *q. v.* In 1806 he removed to this town where he d. July 18, 1841.

2 I. *Stephen*, b. June 16, 1797; d. young.
3 II. *William*, b. Aug. 22, 1798; d. young.
4 III. *Dolly*, b. March 6, 1801; md. Arnold Dwight of Dover.
5 IV. *Hannah*, b. Nov. 24, 1802; md. Samuel Danforth of Fitchburg and removed to Salem where she d. June 10, 1880.

v. *Stephen*, b. March 20, 1804; md. Miriam Farwell of Fitchburg; removed to Nashua, Ill.

7 vi. *Sylvia*, b. Oct. 20, 1805; d. Feb. 23, 1849.

8 vii. *Achsah*, b. May 14, 1807; md. Oct. 29, 1827, Lincoln Hart of Townsend; md. (2d) May 14, 1833, Bradish Baker, *q. v.*

9 viii. *Betsey*, b. Feb. 14, 1809; md. 1836, James S. Mills of Dunbarton, N. H.

10 ix. *William P.*, b. April 6, 1810; md. Sally Blodgett; d. in Salisbury, Conn., Sept. 26, 1866.

11 x. *Samuel*, b. Jan. 13, 1812; md. 1834, Mary Pettengill; d. in California 1878.

12 xi. *Zaccheus*, b. Jan. 1, 1814; md. Maria Garfield; he d. in West Cambridge May 9, 1844.

13 William Bemis, son of William and Hannah (Derby) Bemis, b. Jan. 2, 1808, md. April 14, 1836, Elizabeth B. Beard, dau. of Artemas and Mary (Chaplin) Beard of Fitzwilliam, N. H. He d. March 23, 1881; she d. April 29, 1877.

14 i. *Sarah E.*, b. Oct. 20, 1837; md. George C. Foster, *q. v.*

15 ii. *Francis W.*, b. April 3, 1844; md. March 26, 1875, Emily Stoddard of Templeton, dau. of Nathan and Mary (Colcord) Stoddard. Two children.

16 John Bemis, son of William and Hannah (Derby) Bemis, b. Dec. 28, 1819, md. Dec. 19, 1844, Lucy R. Sawtell, dau. of Asa Sawtell, *q. v.* He resided in Ashburnham until 1868 when he removed to New York City, where he d. Jan. 26, 1879.

17 i. *Georgiana*, b. Feb. 17, 1847; resides in New York.

18 ii. *Frank*, b. Dec. 21, 1850; md. Jan. 26, 1878, Lillian M. English; he d. at Palmer Nov. 9, 1884.

19 iii. *Hattie L.*, b. Nov. 22, 1860.

20 Albert T. Bemis, b. May 17, 1816, son of Jonas and Mercy (Burgess) Bemis, has resided in this town since youth. He md. Aug. 28, 1842, Sarah Hastings, dau. of John Hastings, *q. v.* He is a farmer and owns and occupies the farm where Dea. Sherebiah Hunt settled.

21 i. *Charles A.*, b. Sept. 22, 1843. He is a physician in West Medway. *Vide* Chap. XX. He md. Dec. 14, 1872, Lizzie Thompson of Philadelphia.

22 II. *Herbert G.*, b. Nov. 1, 1844; md. Gertie Kirkland; resides in Manashoe, Wis.
23 III. *Frank T.*, b. April 25, 1847; md. Gertie Dennison; resides in Sheboygan, Wis.
24 IV. *Lizzie*, b. Sept. 23, 1848; md. Orange Mossman.
25 V. *Sarah*, b. Oct. 14, 1850; d. Feb. 18, 1851.
26 VI. *J. Clifton*, b. Nov. 11, 1851; d. Feb. 18, 1853.
27 VII. *Sarah*, b. Aug. 28, 1853; d. Feb. 14, 1863.
28 VIII. *Anna M.*, b. July 8, 1855.
29 IX. *Fannie J.*, b. Nov. 13, 1857; d. Feb. 11, 1863.
30 X. *Freddie N.*, b. Jan. 10, 1859; d. Feb. 10, 1863.
31 XI. *Arthur E.*, b. Oct. 4, 1862; d. Feb. 9, 1863.
32 XII. *Alice J.*, b. March 3, 1865.

33 JUSTIN W. BEMIS, b. April 6, 1853, son of Elijah Bemis of Northborough, md. Dec. 31, 1877, Lizzie G. Mirick, dau. of John A. and Kezia (Pierce) Mirick of Princeton. She was b. March 27, 1855, and d. June 23, 1884. He has resided in Ashburnham since 1878 and at present is one of the road commissioners. Two children, one of whom d. in infancy.

BENJAMIN.

JOHN BENJAMIN, the emigrant ancestor of the families of this name in Ashburnham, came from England to America 1632, and in November of that year was admitted freeman. He was one of the proprietors and in 1633 a constable of Cambridge. He subsequently removed to Watertown where he d. June 14, 1645, leaving a widow, Abigail, and eight children. Of these the eldest son was John, b. in England 1620. By wife Lydia he had eight children. He d. in Watertown Dec. 22, 1706. Daniel, son of John and Lydia Benjamin, was b. in Watertown Sept. 12, 1660. He md. March 25, 1687, Elizabeth Brown, b. Sept. 19, 1664, dau. of Jonathan and Mary (Shattuck) Brown. He was a licensed innholder 1694-9. He d. in Watertown Dec. 13, 1719; his widow d. Aug. 8, 1740. Jonathan, a son of Daniel Benjamin, md. Dec. 23, 1714, Annabelle Eve; he md. (2d) May 7, 1734, Hannah (Cunnable) Bond, dau. of John and Martha Cunnable and widow of William Bond of Watertown. He d. in Watertown 1741 or 1742.

1 WILLIAM BENJAMIN, youngest son of Jonathan and Hannah Benjamin, was b. in Watertown Jan. 16, 1737-8. He md. Jan. 2, 1760, Sarah Child, dau. of Daniel and Mary (Bright) Child. She was b. in Waltham Aug. 11, 1740. They removed to this town 1760. The father and two sons were in the Revolutionary service from this town. Soon after the Revolution the family removed to Woodstock, Vt. Ten children were b. in this town.

2 I. *Jonathan*, b. July 30, 1760.+
3 II. *Jonas*, b. May 5, 1762; md. Aug. 2, 1785, Mercy Salter, dau. of Samuel Salter, *q. v.* He was of Woodstock, Vt., at date of marriage.

iii. *William*, b. Aug. 1, 1764.
iv. *Sarah*, b. Aug. 2, 1766.
v. *Josiah*, b. June 19, 1769.
vi. *Lucy*, b. July 7, 1771.
vii. *Molly*, b. July 11, 1773.
viii. *Hannah*, b. Aug. 7, 1775.
ix. *Levi*, b. Sept. 7, 1777.
x. *Asa*, bap. June 30, 1782.

(2) Jonathan Benjamin md. Oct. 30, 1780, Anise Holt. He removed with his father to Woodstock, Vt.

i. *Jonathan*, bap. April 27, 1782.
ii. *Anise*, bap. Jan. 26, 1783.
iii. *Lemuel*.

Daniel Benjamin, lineage not traced, removed to Ashburnham 1778. He md. Nov. 10, 1779, Tamezin Felton, a sister of the wife of Lemuel Stimson. This family resided on the farm more recently occupied by Samuel Keyes in the north part of the town. He d. May 12, 1819; she d. March 20, 1843. Their ten children were b. in this town.

i. *Eunice*, b. Dec. 6, 1780; md. Jan. 12, 1813, John R. Kemp of Fitchburg where she d. 1820.
ii. *Daniel*, b. March 6, 1783.+
iii. *Nahum*, b. Feb. 20, 1785.+
iv. *Tamezin*, b. May 16, 1787; d. unmd. 1862.
v. *Nabby*, b. June 17, 1789; md. Samuel Keyes, *q. v.*
vi. *Sally*, b. March 14, 1792; md. Oct. 15, 1815, Dea. John Hunt of Boston, a son of John and Rebecca (Hicks) Hunt of Watertown. She d. March 31, 1837. Eight children. He md. (2d) a woman of the same name, Sally Benjamin, but not connected with the Ashburnham families.

1. John M., b. Oct. 6, 1816; d. Jan. 6, 1839.
2. Sarah Elizabeth, b. Aug. 6, 1818; d. July 9, 1821.
3. Harriet A., b. Jan. 18, 1821.
4. Maria Charlotte, b. Feb. 5, 1825.
5. William A., b. March 13, 1827; md. Inez M. White.
6. Emily, b. Sept. 26, 1829.
7. Clarissa, d. young.
8. George E., b. Nov. 12, 1836.

30 VII. *Lydia*, md. Sept. 18, 1814, Charles Damon of Wayland.
31 VIII. *Samuel How*, b. 1797; d. May 1, 1801.
32 IX. *Lovisa*, b. April 8, 1801; md. —— Cram; md. (2d) —— Moore of Boston.
33 X. *Irene*, b. Feb. 20, 1805; md. Emery Willard, son of John Willard, *q. v.*

(17) DANIEL BENJAMIN, JR., resided on the farm now of D. D. McIntire. He md. 1806, Rachel Wetherell of Mansfield; she d. Dec. 17, 1838. He md. (2d) March 4, 1840, Betsey (McIntire) Billings, widow of Joshua Billings, *q. v.* He d. June 10, 1865; she d. Oct., 1863.

34 I. *Stillman D.*, b. Nov. 4, 1807.+
35 II. *Samuel H.*, b. Nov. 10, 1809; md. Tamezin Hunt, dau. of Peter Hunt, *q. v.* He removed to Ashby where he d. Jan. 18, 1879; she d. Aug. 28, 1869. No children.
36 III. *Louisa Rachel*, b. July 15, 1816; md. 1837, Ai Foster of Ashby, son of Jonathan Foster of Ashby. She d. Feb. 3, 1878.
37 IV. *Lonenza* (twin), b. July 15, 1816; d. Feb. 17, 1817.

(18) NAHUM BENJAMIN md. 1810, Judith Reed, dau. of Supply Reed of Acworth, N. H., and a sister of the wife of Ebenezer Jones. He resided several years near the residence of his brother Daniel. The family removed to the West many years ago.

38 I. *Susan Reed*, b. July 31, 1811.
39 II. *Sarah Eliza*, b. Aug. 31, 1814.
40 III. *Timothy Nahum*, b. Dec. 4, 1817.
41 IV. *Supply.*
42 V. *Harriet.*
43 VI. *Alzina.*

(34) STILLMAN D. BENJAMIN md. April 4, 1832, Mary Foster, dau. of Nathaniel Foster, *q. v.* He removed about 1840 to Shirley Village, where he now resides. She d. Dec. 25, 1882.

44 I. *Sidney Wendell*, b. May 25, 1833; md. Jan. 22, 1873, Mary Harris, dau. of Humphrey Harris, *q. v.* Resides in Shirley.
45 II. *Viola D.*, b. Aug. 4, 1836; md. 1865, Stephen H. Kimball of Ipswich.

46 iii. *Mary Jane*, b. March 24, 1841; md. Lorenzo L. Brown of Harvard.
47 iv. *Frances Ann*, b. Oct. 24, 1845.

1 Capt. James Bennett, a son of Moses and Anna (Blanchard) Bennett, was b. in Groton Dec. 5, 1736. He md. Hannah ——. His eldest child was b. in Rowley; the second in Townsend; the next five in Ashby. His wife d. in Ashby and he md. (2d) Dec. 14, 1784, Olive Shattuck, dau. of John and Elizabeth Shattuck of Pepperell where she was b. Jan. 27, 1753. Capt. Bennett removed from Ashby to the northeast part of this town about 1784 and was a prominent citizen here until, by a change in boundary lines, his homestead was annexed to Ashby in 1792. Two children of the second wife were b. in this town and the youngest in Ashby. Capt. Bennett was an officer in the Revolutionary army. He d. Aug. 9, 1808. His widow md. Jan. 25, 1816, Nehemiah Hardy of Hollis.

2 i. *Betsey*, b. April 1, 1766; md. John Hall, *q. v.*
3 ii. *Hannah*, b. Sept. 23, 1767; md. (Int. Dec. 15, 1787), Allen Stone; resided in Thomaston, Me.
4 iii. *Asa*, b. April 20, 1770; removed to Thomaston, Me.
5 iv. *Milly*, b. April 13, 1772; md. Nov. 29, 1792, Jonathan Spaulding, *q. v.*
6 v. *Sewell*, b. Feb. 18, 1774.
7 vi. *Quincy*, b. Sept. 15, 1775.
8 vii. *Almon*, b. Sept. 10, 1778.+
9 viii. *Eliab*, b. Jan. 19, 1789; d. unmd. May 4, 1815, the day appointed for his marriage.
10 ix. *James Hervey*, b. Nov. 22, 1791; md. Oct. 22, 1820, Winifred Knowles. He was in the West India goods trade in Boston until 1845. He subsequently resided in Lexington.
11 x. *Sarah*, b. Aug. 7, 1795; md. 1816, William Wright of Pepperell.

(8) Almon Bennett md. May 19, 1802, Elizabeth Constantine, dau. of Jacob Constantine, *q. v.* He resided successively in East Wallingford, Vt., in this town and in Ashby, where he d. Jan. 3, 1857; she d. Sept. 2, 1842.

12 i. *Emma*, b. Aug. 10, 1802; md. Jan. 6, 1827, Charles Wellington, son of Elias and Hepsibah (Kendall) Wellington of Ashby. She d. Jan. 25, 1882.

1. Ellen Maria, b. Nov. 4, 1829.
2. Cecil, b. Aug. 10, 1835.

II. *Phila*, b. April 19, 1805; d. Aug. 24, 1847.
III. *Alma*, b. March 18, 1807; d. April 6, 1815.
IV. *Adaline Eliza*, b. Oct. 5, 1811; d. April 12, 1815.
V. *Hervey James*, b. Aug. 28, 1814; md. Lucy Buss of Sterling; d. in Worcester Dec. 8, 1846. Four children.
VI. *Charles*, b. Jan. 15, 1821; d. in Springfield, Ky., 1857.

THOMAS BENNETT, probably a son of Thomas and Lydia Bennett, was from Groton. He md. Sept. 5, 1794, Catherine Wilker, dau. of Jacob Wilker, *q. v.* They resided in Ashburnham and in Ashby. He d. in Ashby Dec. 31, 1828. She subsequently removed to Concord, Vt., where she d. Feb. 10, 1862, aged 86 years. They had eleven children.

I. *Annie*, md. John S. Temple; lived in Concord, Vt.; d. May 28, 1871.
II. *Asa*, md. 1823, Laura Constantine, dau. of Jacob Constantine, Jr.; he resided in Ashburnham. She md. (2d) John Adams, Jr., *q. v.*

1. George P., removed to Florida.
2. Augustus N., removed to Cambridge.
3. Laura Jane, md. Dec. 22, 1845, John L. Atherton, son of Percy Atherton of Jaffrey, N. H.
4. Austin C., resides in Worcester.

III. *Susan*, b. July 6, 1798; d. unmd. Feb. 6, 1876.
IV. *Melinda*, b. Feb. 6, 1801; md. Sept. 5, 1829, Reuben Hodgman; d. in Ashby March 19, 1877.
V. *Thomas*, d. at Concord, Vt., unmd., March 9, 1871.
VI. *Danford*, md. Mary Stacy; removed to Concord, Vt.
VII. *Orin*.
VIII. *Martha*, b. Feb. 29, 1812; md. Joel Whipple; resided in Concord, Vt.
IX. *Jacob W.*, md. May 18, 1843, Roxanna Manning of Ashby. Resides in Ashby.
X. *John*, d. unmd.
XI. *George*, md. Mary Blanchard; md. (2d) Jan. 20, 1853, Maria Foster; resides in Townsend.

THOMAS BENNETT removed to this town about 1824 and remained a number of years. He was interested in the

saw-mill now of Leonard Foster. He was a son of Thomas and Mary Bennett and was b. in Gardner Jan. 14, 1798; md. Emma Foster, dau. of Nathaniel Foster, *q. v.* The eldest child was b. in Gardner; the others in this town. He removed from this town nearly forty years ago and d. in Athol 1884.

37 I. *Mary Ann*, b. Oct. 24, 1823.
38 II. *Nancy Maria*, b. Nov. 28, 1825.
39 III. *Albert Thomas*, b. Oct. 3, 1827.
40 IV. *Helen Augusta*, b. Sept. 10, 1829.
41 V. *Samuel Foster*, b. Aug. 25, 1831.
42 VI. *George Anson*, b. June 30, 1833.

JOHN and NATHAN BIGELOW probably were brothers. They came to Ashburnham about 1768; were married the same day and both removed from this town a short time previous to 1787.

1 JOHN BIGELOW md. Sept. 11, 1770, Mary Melvin. Six children were b. in this town.

2 I. *John*, b. Dec. 12, 1771; d. Dec. 25, 1771.
3 II. *Jonathan*, b. Jan. 25, 1773.
4 III. *Silas*, b. May 7, 1775.
5 IV. *John*, b. July 3, 1777; d. Aug. 2, 1777.
6 V. *Amos*, b. July 5, 1778.
7 VI. *Isaac*, b. Oct. 27, 1780.

8 NATHAN BIGELOW md. Sept. 11, 1770, Elizabeth Oak.

9 I. *Levi*, b. July 13, 1771.
10 II. *Nathan*, b. Jan. 27, 1773.
11 III. *Betty*, b. Sept. 17, 1774.
12 IV. *Jonathan Oak*, b. July 22, 1776.

13 SILAS BIGELOW resided in this town a few years preceding 1786, and about that time he removed to New Ipswich, N. H. He was a son of John and Grace (Allen) Bigelow who resided in Weston, Acton, Westford and New Ipswich. Silas Bigelow was b. Feb. 12, 1745. He was md. and had sons: Silas, Daniel, Samuel, Joel and John, but no reference to the elder children appears in the records of this town. In New Ipswich he was an innholder. Two children were b. in this town.

14 I. *Infant*, d. Aug. 1, 1783.
15 II. *Joseph*, bap. Nov. 13, 1785; d. Jan., 1786.

1 JOSHUA BILLINGS bought a part of Cambridge farm of Capt. Thomas Adams in 1772 and removed to this town

the same year. He md. Lois Gibson. He d. May 17, 1799; she d. May 27, 1820.

2 I. *Joshua*, b. Jan. 25, 1773.+
3 II. *Reuben*, b. May 11, 1774.+
4 III. *Jonathan*, bap. 1776.
5 IV. *Lois*, bap. 1777; d. Dec. 11, 1777.
6 V. *Lois Gibson*, b. Feb. 1, 1779; md. Joseph Fairbanks Burgess, *q. v.*
7 VI. *Ephraim*, bap. 1782; d. Sept. 4, 1782.
8 VII. *Dorothy*, b. July 1, 1783; md. Nov. 27, 1806, Ephraim Wyman Lord of Ashby.
9 VIII. *Sarah*, b. April 20, 1786; md. Daniel McIntire, *q. v.*
10 IX. *James*, b. Jan. 28, 1792.+

(2) JOSHUA BILLINGS, JR., md. Feb. 16, 1802, Molly Pollard, dau. of William Pollard, *q. v.* She d. Dec. 25, 1823, and he md. (2d) 1825, Betsey McIntire, dau. of Daniel McIntire. He d. Dec. 17, 1834, and she md. (2d) Daniel Benjamin, *q. v.*

11 I. *Joshua*, b. Nov. 14, 1802; d. Sept. 2, 1803.
12 II. *William*, b. June 17, 1804; d. March 12, 1822.
13 III. *Joshua*, b. June 29, 1806; d. May 30, 1817.
14 IV. *Varnum*, b. Feb. 16, 1808; d. Jan. 16, 1817.
15 V. *Merrick*, b. Nov. 22, 1809: d. Sept. 18, 1810.
16 VI. *Joshua*, b. April 11, 1811; d. Oct. 21, 1815.
17 VII. *Milton*, b. Nov. 23, 1812; d. Dec. 19, 1814.
18 VIII. *Merrick*, b. Nov. 23, 1813; d. Oct. 28, 1840.
19 IX. *Mary*, b. July 26, 1814; md. May 2, 1839, Arad Proctor; reside in Athol.
20 X. *Charlotte*, b. March 12, 1816; md. Feb. 13, 1838, Abel A. Hildreth. They reside in St. Augustine, Fla.
21 XI. *John*, b. March 26, 1821; md. 1858, Elmira Wilker, dau. of Jacob Wilker. They removed to California.
22 XII. *Dolly*, b. April 10, 1822; md. April 23, 1848, Edmund N. Marble, son of Stephen Marble, *q. v.*

(3) REUBEN BILLINGS md. 1800, Polly Parmenter of Notowa, and about 1805 removed to Fitchburg. Two children b. in this town.

23 I. *Polly*, b. May 28, 1801.
24 II. *Reuben*, b. Dec. 20, 1802.

(10) JAMES BILLINGS md. Nov. 11, 1812, Relief Petts, dau. of John Petts, *q. v.*; resided near the Dea. Hunt farm, still known as the Billings farm, where he d. Jan. 12, 1846; she d. Feb. 25, 1843.

25 I. *John Howard*, b. Jan. 6, 1813; md. May 18, 1843, Emeline Stearns, dau. of Abel and Persis (Lawrence) Stearns of Ashby. He d. May 5, 1860.

26 1. George H., b. June 25, 1844; resides in Leominster.

27 2. Leafy Maria, b. June 7, 1848; md. Nov. 16, 1866, James A. Willard of Townsend.

28 3. Charles Austin, b. May 7, 1856; md. Oct. 24, 1868, Effie Packard, dau. of Horace C. Packard, *q. v.*

1 ANDREW BIRRELL, b. in Edinburg, Scotland, Feb. 9, 1812. After a residence of several years in Maine he came to this town in 1863. He md. 1836, Jane Wood; md. (2d) June 30, 1864, Harriet (Flint) Walker, dau. of Thomas and Betsey (Keyes) Flint and widow of William Smith Walker. Three children of Andrew and Jane (Wood) Birrell were b. in Scotland.

2 I. *Jennie*, b. June 19, 1841; md. Nov. 28, 1867, Charles G. Lawrence, son of Gilman Lawrence of Ashby. He was a veteran of the 21st Regiment and had resided in this town many years.

3 II. *Mary C.*, b. July 25, 1847; md. William Henry Willard, *q. v.*

4 III. *Lizzie*, b. July 25, 1848.

1 JACOB BIRON, b. March 18, 1835, in Germany, md. May 20, 1855, Ann Elizabeth Asman, b. in Germany Aug. 20, 1831. They removed to this town in 1858. By occupation he is a wood carver.

2 I. *Katie*, b. in New York Oct. 26, 1857; md. Fred Warner; resides in Templeton.

3 II. *George Henry*, b. March 19, 1858; md. Nellie Newton; resides in Fitchburg.

4 III. *Elizabeth*, b. May 20, 1862.

5 IV. *Mary*, b. Dec. 15, 1864.

6 V. *Anna*, b. Nov. 26, 1866.

7 VI. *Henrietta*, b. Jan. 31, 1871.

1 JOEL RAYMOND BIXBY, son of Aaron Bixby, was b. in Rindge Jan. 5, 1803, where he resided until 1858, when he removed to this town. He md. Susan White and d. Dec. 10, 1875. Three of their twelve children died in infancy.

2 I. *Aaron B.*, b. Feb. 7, 1830; resides in the north part of this town. He md. Melissa A. Wyman; (2d) Harriet E. W. Booth of Ashby. Seven children.

3 II. *Mary Elizabeth*, b. Sept. 30, 1831; md. Otis Pratt.

4 III. *S. Augusta*, b. July 8, 1833; md. 1854, John A. Field; md. (2d) Austin Brooks, *q. v.*

5 IV. *Linda*, b. April 23, 1840; md. Alfred Clark, *q. v.*

6 V. *Cynthia Maria*, b. July 5, 1842.

7 VI. *Julia Ann*, b. June 26, 1844.

8 VII. *Caroline A.*, b. Aug. 26, 1846; md. George Humphrey of Holden.

9 VIII. *Susan Arabelle*, b. Aug. 14, 1848; md. William Lindley; he d. Feb. 26, 1872.

10 IX. *Martha Jane*, b. April 15, 1852; md. George Walls of Shirley.

1 HORACE BLACK removed to this town about 1830. He was engaged many years in the manufacture of furniture. His mill was destroyed by the freshet in 1850 and he soon after removed to Buchanan, Mich. He md. 1833, Harriet Petts, dau. of John Petts, *q. v.* Four children were b. in this town.

2 I. *Horace Sumner*, b. Oct. 25, 1834.

3 II. *Harriet Maria*, b. Sept. 7, 1837.

4 III. *Sarah Elizabeth*, b. May 9, 1841.

5 IV. *Relief Ann*, b. Oct. 23, 1843.

1 ABRAHAM BLODGET, lineage not traced, lived in this town a few years preceding the Revolution. He md. Aug. 6, 1770, Martha Bates, probably a dau. of John Bates, *q. v.* In 1773 they removed to Shelburne.

2 ISAAC BLODGET settled in Ashburnham at an early date. He was taxed in 1770 and he md. 1773, Persis Whitcomb, dau. of William Whitcomb, *q. v.* In 1775 he served in the siege of Boston eight months, in Capt. Wilder's company, and removed to Westminster soon after. His descendants have resided in this town. He d. in Westminster about 1824. Persis, his wife, d. May 18, 1834. A child d. Sept. 17, 1778.

3 ELIAS BLODGET, son of Isaac and Persis (Whitcomb) Blodget, was b. in Westminster Nov. 26, 1783. He md. his cousin, Relief Whitcomb, dau. of Elias Whitcomb, *q. v.* He resided in Peru, Vt., and in Ashby until 1810, when he removed to this town. In 1817 he removed to Westminster, where he d. June 24, 1825. She d. in this town May 31, 1849.

4 I. *Elias*, b. June 27, 1807; md. Hannah Patch; md. (2d) Martha W. Montjoy. He has resided in this town and at the South Village since 1870. Two children.

5 1. Farwell, b. June 25, 1841; d. July 12, 1843.

6 2. Charles, b. June 1, 1843; d. Nov. 28, 1862.

7 II. *Lucy*, b. July 31, 1809; md. John W. Wallace, *q. v.*

8 III. *Farwell*, b. April 10, 1812; d. Nov. 15, 1819.

9 IV. *Mary*, b. Feb. 21, 1814; md. James Blodget, *q. v.*

10 V. *Isaac*, b. May 15, 1816; d. May 19, 1816.

11 VI. *Persis* (twin), b. May 15, 1816; d. May 18, 1816.

12 VII. *Sarah*, b. May 5, 1817; unmd.; resides in this town.

13 VIII. *Harriet*, b. Aug. 8, 1819; unmd.; resides in this town.

14 IX. *Lucinda*, b. Jan. 2, 1823; d. Feb. 26, 1823.

15 JAMES BLODGET was a grandson of Isaac and Persis (Whitcomb) Blodget. He was a son of Jonas and Polly (Blair) Blodget who resided in Vermont and in Fitzwilliam, N. H. He md. 1834, his cousin Mary Blodget, dau. of Elias Blodget, *q. v.* Five of their seven children died young.

16 I. *Eliza*, b. March 16, 1836; md. Henry A. Gibbs, *q. v.*

17 II. *Sarah Frances*, b. July 28, 1838; md. Lincoln Wallace, *q. v.*

18 III. *Lucinda*, b. Sept. 22, 1840; d. Aug. 6, 1841.

19 IV. *Edward*, b. March 9, 1843; d. Oct. 7, 1843.

20 V. *Sidney*, b. Feb. 6, 1846; d. Dec. 27, 1849.

21 VI. *Lucy A.*, b. Oct. 27, 1849; d. March 30, 1850.

22 VII. *Hattie Jane*, b. April 28, 1853; d. Aug 12, 1863.

1 JOB BOND resided in this town several years, but I have

no information of previous and subsequent history. The record of deaths gives information of one child.

2 I. *Job*, b. 1770; d. 1780.

3 DANIEL BOND, perhaps a son or brother of Job Bond, resided in this town from about 1774 to 1785. He served in the army in 1779. He subsequently resided in Claremont, N. H. *Vide* pages 163 and 190.

1 JOHN BOWMAN was b. in Lexington July 3, 1759, and was a son of John and Susannah (Coolidge) Bowman, and a grandson of John and Mary (Stone) Bowman. After a residence of several years in Andover, he removed to this town about 1811, and resided here until his death Oct. 22, 1847. While a resident of Lexington he served several enlistments in the Revolution and was a pensioner during the waning years of his life. His wife d. June 8, 1841, aged 76 years. No record of the marriage has been found.

• 2 I. *John*, removed from this town 1811. He was then about 23 years of age.

3 II. *Philip*, md. 1815, Phebe Merriam, dau. of Joseph Merriam, *q. v.* They resided here several years and removed to Westminster. Several children.

4 III. *Mary*, md. 1817, Thomas Rice, son of Jonah Rice, *q. v.*

5 IV. *Sally*, md. —— Hayden.

6 V. *Phebe*, b. 1803; d. Feb. 4, 1816.

1 JEREMIAH BRIDGE is found residing here in 1764 and disappears about 1772. His previous and subsequent history is unknown. While he resided in this town his home was enlivened by a wife Sarah and four children.

2 I. *Sarah*, b. Oct. 22, 1764.

3 II. *Ezra*, b. Feb. 13, 1767.

4 III. *Jeremiah*, b. Jan. 29, 1769.

5 IV. *Abigail*, bap. Sept. 1, 1771.

1 BRADFORD BRITTON from Westmoreland, son of Bradford and Nancy Jane (Priest) Britton, md. Lovisa Priest; md. (2d) Mrs. Mary Hosley of Gardner. He resided in this town a few years. Was killed in the mill of Horace W. Houston Feb. 25, 1867; his widow resides in Millis.

2 GEORGE BRITTON, a brother of Bradford Britton, Jr., was b. in Westmoreland Dec. 16, 1839; md. May 19, 1868, Augusta R. Hosley, dau. of Samuel and Polly

(Remington) Hosley of Jamaica, Vt. He is a farmer in the south part of the town. Two children.

1 Asa Brocklebank was b. in Rowley Aug. 15, 1745; he md. April 10, 1771, Mary Howe of Andover, and removed to Rindge in 1772 or 1773. He removed to this town in 1777 and returned to Rindge about 1790, where he d. Dec. 12, 1826.

2 i. *Asa*, b. Jan. 30, 1772.
3 ii. *Eunice*, b. Dec. 31, 1773; d. Nov. 24, 1775.
4 iii. *Samuel*, b. Nov. 27, 1776.
5 iv. *Eunice*, b. Nov. 9, 1777; d. Oct. 18, 1778.
6 v. *Mary*, b. Aug. 7, 1779.
7 vi. *Joseph*, b. Aug. 23, 1792.
8 vii. *Nahum*, b. July 24, 1794.

1 Dr. Peter Brooks, lineage not known, was the first resident physician of Ashburnham. *Vide* Chap. XX. His descendants have been and still are numerous in this and other towns. He md. Nov. 14, 1769, Judith Foster, dau. of Jeremiah Foster, *q. v.* Between 1790 and 1800 he left his family and the town. The date and place of his death are unknown. She d. March 9, 1824, aged 78 years.

2 i. *Calvin*, b. March 25, 1770; removed to the South.
3 ii. *Luther*, b. Feb. 15, 1772.+
4 iii. *John Swift*, b. and d. 1774.
5 iv. *Sewell*, b. Feb. 4, 1777.+
6 v. *Peter*, b. Jan. 11, 1780.
7 vi. *Dorcas*, b. June 24, 1782.
8 vii. *Lydia*, b. Sept. 23, 1784; d. unmd. June 30, 1851.
9 viii. *Dickerson*, b. Oct. 13, 1787.+

(3) Luther Brooks, son of Dr. Peter Brooks, md. April 24, 1800, Lucy Gates, dau. of John Gates, *q. v.* He was a farmer and a carpenter in Ashburnham. Late in life he removed to Ohio. He d. Oct. 22, 1854; she d. Aug. 23, 1868. Eleven children.

10 i. *Luther*, b. Feb. 16, 1801; md. 1820, Dolly Adams, dau. of James Adams, *q. v.*; she d. Sept. 11, 1828. He md. (2d) 1830, Hannah (Jacobs) Harrington, widow of Daniel Harrington of Lexington. About 1830 he removed to East Cambridge and was there engaged in the lumber business. He d. July 4, 1839.

11 1. Harriet Adams, b. June 19, 1820.

2. Martin Luther, b. and d. May 4, 1822.
3. Sarah Jane, b. May 18, 1823; md. Charles Gerrish of Groton.
4. Elvira Diana, b. Nov. 20, 1824.
5. Luther Francis.
6. Susanna Jacobs.
7. Charles Edwin.
8. Everett Wellington.

II. *Calvin*, b. Sept. 14, 1802; md. Eliza Flagg, and removed after a few years.

1. Eliza, b. Sept. 11, 1827; d. June 5, 1828.
2. Calvin Augustus, b. March 18, 1829; d. Oct. 11, 1831.
3. Eliza Emeline, b. Sept. 13, 1830.
4. Mary Abbie, b. March 28, 1832; d. Feb. 20, 1843.
5. Frederick.
6. Edward F.
7. Adriana.
8. Stetson.
9. Artemas.

III. *Alden*, b. June 24, 1804; md. Hannah Creyton of Portsmouth, N. H. He was a carpenter and d. in this town May 3, 1847. To them were born six children but no record has been secured.

IV. *Ezra Gates*, b. June 7, 1806; d. unmd. Dec. 9, 1833.

V. *Catherine*, b. June 17, 1808; md. Freeman Vicory of Springfield, Ohio.

VI. *Emeline*, b. March 30, 1811; md. Charles Hunting of Princeton; d. Sept. 23, 1879.

VII. *Edward Stetson*, b. March 6, 1813; d. unmd. Oct. 7, 1838.

VIII. *John Warren*, b. May 20, 1815. In 1835 he removed to Cambridge and was soon engaged in the lumber business in the firm of Brooks & Cottrell, and subsequently he assumed the sole management of the business in which he was successful. He md. Hannah Dana who survives him. He d. April 10, 1886.

1. William.
2. Mary.

IX. *Mary P.*, b. July 8, 1817; md. Oliver Hunting; d. April 27, 1860.

38 x. *Sarah M.*, b. Sept. 19, 1821; d. unmd. April 8, 1847.
39 xi. *Charles N.*, b. July 5, 1825; md. Almira Bartlett; resides in Worcester.

(5) Sewell Brooks, son of Dr. Peter Brooks, was a carpenter and a farmer in this town. I have found no record of his marriage. The name of his wife was Sally. He d. May 28, 1822; she d. 1837.

40 i. *Sewell*, b. Aug. 24, 1799.
41 ii. *Samuel*, b. Jan. 16, 1801; md. 1830, Lucy Hubbard of Holden.
42 iii. *Walter*, b. June 24, 1804.
43 iv. *William*, b. Jan. 6, 1807.
44 v. *Jonas*, b. Sept. 9, 1809.
45 vi. *George*, b. June 8, 1813.
46 vii. *Nancy*, b. Aug. 3, 1817.

(8) Dickerson Brooks, son of Dr. Peter Brooks, md. Sept. 9, 1818, Hannah Kemp of Groton. He was a farmer in this town, where he d. July 13, 1855.

47 i. *Amos Dickerson*, b. July 21, 1819.
48 ii. *John*, b. Oct. 19, 1821.
49 iii. *Hannah Elizabeth*, b. Feb. 22, 1824.
50 iv. *Huldah*, b. May 21, 1826.
51 v. *Sally Tottingham*, b. Oct. 18, 1828.
52 vi. *Levi*, b. Aug. 6, 1831.

53 Thaddeus Brooks, who came to this town about 1782, was a son of Amos and Lydia Brooks of Lincoln, where he was b. April 30, 1758. He was a grandson of Joseph and Rebecca (Blodgett) Brooks of Concord, and subsequently of Lincoln, a great-grandson of Dea. Joshua and Hannah (Mason) Brooks of Concord, and a great-great-grandson of Thomas and Grace Brooks, the emigrant ancestors of a large family in this State and elsewhere.

Thaddeus Brooks md. in Ashburnham Feb. 22, 1785, Sarah Winchester, the sixth child of Rev. Jonathan Winchester, *q. v.* He was a farmer, a respected citizen and is frequently and honorably mentioned in the records. He d. of cancer June 17, 1819. She d. Nov., 1835.

54 i. *Elijah*, b. Oct. 9, 1786.+
55 ii. *Samuel*, b. March 20, 1792.+
56 iii. *Sarah*, b. March 2, 1797; md. Feb. 5, 1835, Ezra Hudson of Templeton. She d. Nov., 1835, and he md. (2d) Caroline Jones, dau. of Edmund Jones, *q. v.*

57 iv. *Joel*, b. Oct. 21, 1799; d. unmd. Dec. 12, 1863.
58 v. *William*, b. Aug. 10, 1803.+

(54) Elijah Brooks, eldest son of Thaddeus Brooks, md. Jan. 6, 1818, Rebecca Sanderson, dau. of Moses Sanderson, *q. v.* He was a farmer and a useful citizen in Ashburnham, where he d. March 18, 1874. She d. May 24, 1862.

59 i. *Mary Rebecca*, b. Oct. 1, 1818; md. Hon. Ohio Whitney, *q. v.*
60 ii. *Sarah Sophia*, b. May 30, 1826; md. Oct. 7, 1875, Henry Vanness, for several years a merchant in this town. They reside at West Medway.

(55) Samuel Brooks md. April 25, 1822, Ruth Rice, dau. of Jonas Rice, *q. v.* He was a farmer who commanded the esteem of his associates. He d. April 1, 1872; she d. July 7, 1853.

61 i. *Milton*, b. Jan. 29, 1826; md. June 11, 1857, Achsah C. Ward, dau. of Alvin Ward, *q. v.* He resides a farmer in this town.
62 ii. *Lavinia*, b. July 2, 1827; d. unmd. Jan. 9, 1850.

(58) William Brooks md. June 13, 1833, Lucy Russell, dau. of Eliakim and Sarah (Converse) Russell of Rindge. He was a merchant and subsequently was engaged in the manufacture of friction matches. He d. Jan. 8, 1863; she md. (2d) Rev. Isaac Peaslee of Sutton, N. H. No children.

63 Simeon Brooks md. in this town July 20, 1780, Lucy Whitcomb, dau. of William Whitcomb, *q. v.* He resided in the south part of the town and was an early proprietor of the mill now of Elijah Gross & Son. It is said he planted the stately elm now standing on the premises. He removed about 1812 to Westminster.

64 i. *Lucy*, b. Oct. 17, 1781; md. June 17, 1806, Jonas Holden of Westminster.
65 ii. *Asa*, b. June 26, 1784.
66 iii. *Simeon*, b. July 19, 1786.
67 iv. *Lydia*, b. Oct. 22, 1788.
68 v. *Polly*, b. April 10, 1795.
69 vi. *Stillman*, b. Oct. 18, 1796.
70 vii. *Silas*, b. Dec. 3, 1798. His bap. is recorded Cyrus. He d. Jan. 16, 1801.

71 AMOS BROOKS, not known to be related to other families of same name in Ashburnham, resided in the northeast part of this town about twenty years. He was included in the addition to Ashby in 1792. He md. Nov. 24, 1774, Prudence Martin, dau. of John Martin, *q. v.* Nine children.

72 I. *Amos*, b. Aug. 17, 1775.
73 II. *Hannah*, b. Jan. 10, 1778.
74 III. *Lydia*, b. Feb. 18, 1780.
75 IV. *Betty*, b. Feb. 10, 1782.
76 V. *Dolly*, b. Oct. 6, 1784.
77 VI. *Prudence*, b. Sept. 4, 1786.
78 VII. *Asa*, b. Oct. 26, 1788.
79 VIII. *Lois*, b. June 8, 1791.
80 IX. *Savil*, b. in Ashby April 16, 1795.

81 JONAS BROOKS removed to Ashburnham about the close of the Revolution and resided here several years. His wife d. 1797, aged 78 years. His name appears occasionally in the records and upon all the tax lists that have been preserved, until near the close of the century. Except of one son I have no knowledge of his family nor of his earlier and subsequent history. Perhaps Stephen Brooks who d. in this town Nov. 5, 1781, aged 29 years, was his son.

82 I. *Jonas*, b. abont 1755; md. Sept. 12, 1781, Lucy Whitmore, dau. of Joseph Whitmore; *q. v.*

83 ISAAC BROOKS, not related so far as known to any of the numerous families in this town who bore the same name, lived near Mt. Hunger. He md. 1795, Faith Seaver of Westminster. There was an Isaac Brooks who lived over the line in Westminster and whose children were bap. by Mr. Cushing. Isaac Brooks, probably the latter, d. Nov. 9, 1827. Isaac and Faith (Seaver) Brooks, who lived near Mt. Hunger, had three children and perhaps others.

84 I. *Solomon*, b. Feb. 27, 1797.
85 II. *Relief*, md. Dec. 13, 1821, Samuel Hart.
86 III. *Isaac*.

87 JONATHAN BROOKS, for many years, had a mill at the outlet of Rice pond. He resided in this town from an early date until 1817. His wife d. *felo de se* Aug. 22,

1816. It is probable that there were other children but I have been unable to gain any additional record.

88 I. *Lucy*, md. 1808, William Whitney, *q. v.*
89 II. ——, b. 1793; d. Dec. 6, 1801.

90 Dea. Harvey Brooks is not closely allied in kinship to any of the numerous families of the same name who have resided in this town. He was b. in New Ipswich May 30, 1805, and is a son of Stephen and Rachel (Taylor) Brooks of Rindge and New Ipswich and a grandson of Aaron and Mary (Stone) Brooks of Lincoln. Dea. Brooks removed to this town in 1826 and for several years he was in the employ of Charles Davis, John C. Glazier and Jonathan O. Bancroft in the manufacture of chairs. He is a man of integrity and excellent character. In 1869 he removed to Gardner where he still resides. He md. Sept. 21, 1831, Lois Burgess, dau. of Joseph F. Burgess, *q. v.*

91 I. *Harvey P.*, b. June 17, 1833; md. Nov. 15, 1867, Mary Mattattal. He served two years in Co. B, Second Regiment Heavy Artillery; d. March 19, 1870.
92 II. *Euclid L.*, b. July 16, 1835; md. Aug. 14, 1861, Flavilla R. Adams, b. May 10, 1841, dau. of Hosea and Rebecca (Conant) Adams of Gardner. Resides in Gardner.
93 III. *Newton*, b. Oct. 23, 1840. Served on the quota of Gardner in 53d Regiment. He md. Nov. 16, 1876, Frances A. Smith, dau. of Henry Smith of Oshkosh, Wis. Resides in Gardner.
94 IV. *Luella*, b. Dec. 13, 1849; md. May 8, 1879, Marcus Whitney who was b. in Gardner Sept. 13, 1846. Reside in Gardner.

95 Ira Brooks, a son of Samuel and grandson of Isaac and Ruth (Herrick) Brooks of Westminster, was b. in Westminster Sept. 6, 1806. He began life under the name of Samuel which he changed to Ira. He resided in this town with little interruption from 1834 until his death. He md. July 15, 1830, Rebecca E. Wilder of Ashby. He d. June 26, 1885.

96 I. *Emerson*, b. Sept. 27, 1831; md. June 7, 1865, Mada Townsend. Resides in Burke, Vt.
97 II. *Austin*, b. March 6, 1833; a chair maker; resides in this town. He md. Sept. 6, 1860, Mary Jane

Willard, dau. of Merrick Willard. She d. Sept. 1, 1876, leaving six children; he md. (2d) May 15, 1878, S. Augusta (Bixby) Fields, dau. of Joel R. Bixby, *q. v.*

98 III. *Salura*, b. Oct. 28, 1837; md. Danforth N. Baker, *q. v.*

99 IV. *Pascal*, b. Nov. 2, 1839. Enlisted Nov. 1, 1861, in 32d Regiment; d. at Sharpsburg. Md. Oct. 1, 1862.

100 V. *Irving*, b. June 1, 1842. Enlisted 1864 and served in an unattached company; md. 1874, Emily McGee; resides in Troy, N. H.

101 VI. *Infant*, b. and d. 1844.

1 WAIT BROUGHTON md. in Whately Nov. 1, 1771, Submit Wait, dau. of John and Mary (Hastings) Wait, and in 1774 he removed to Ashfield. His wife d. about 1779 and he md. (2d) April 19, 1781, Esther Belding, b. April 18, 1761, dau. of Samuel and Mary Belding of Ashfield. The family with the children Charity, Samuel, Thaddeus and Aaron removed to Ashby in 1786. They were residing in Ashby in 1787, but soon after that date they removed to this town. He was a farmer and was taxed for a generous amount of land. He removed about 1815 to Brandon, Vt., where he d. April 20, 1842, aged 92 years.

2 I. *Charity*, bap. in Whately June 14, 1772; md. Nov. 20, 1794, John Conant, son of Ebenezer Conant, Jr., *q. v.*

3 II. *Samuel*, bap. in Ashfield May 15, 1774; md. Dec. 21, 1797, Rachel Hobart, dau. of Shebuel Hobart, *q. v.*, and removed to Brandon, Vt. Subsequently he resided in Malone, N. Y.

4 III. *Thaddeus*, bap. in Ashfield Aug. 25, 1776.

5 IV. *Cynthia*, bap. in Ashfield Nov. 22, 1778; probably d. young.

6 V. *Aaron W.*, b. previous to 1780; a son of second wife; was a lawyer in Vermont and later in Michigan.

7 VI. *William*, b. in Ashby July 12, 1787; md. in this town Feb. 11, 1810, Ruth Winter, dau. of John Winter, *q. v.* He resided in the north part of the town. He d. May 24, 1831. His widow md. Oct. 2, 1831, Jeremiah Robbins, *q. v.* Six children of William and Ruth Broughton were b. in this town, of whom two d. young.

8 1. Phebe, b. Sept. 10, 1810; md. John

Lawrence, son of Reuben Lawrence, *q. v.*

2. Esther B., b. April 23, 1813; d. 1817.
3. Chauncy W., b. 1817; a farmer in Illinois.
4. Mary, b. 1824, d. 1840.

UNITY BROWN, the name is sometimes written Unite, resided in this town a few years previous to the date of incorporation. He was one of the original members of the church 1760, and in that record his name is written Unight Brown and has been erroneously copied Wright Brown. This man, bearing numerous names upon the records, then of Dorchester Canada, md. in Lunenburg Aug. 16, 1759, Rebecca Arnold of Shrewsbury. He probably removed from this town previous to 1765 and of his subsequent history nothing has appeared.

DANIEL BROWN resided several years in the northeast part of the town. In 1792, by the change in town lines, he became a resident of Ashby. Mary, his wife, d. Aug. 27, 1796, and he md. (2d) 1797, Lydia Webb. He d. in Ashby June 29, 1822; she d. Feb. 20, 1825.

I. *Ephraim*, b. in Ashburnham April 25, 1786.
II. *Joseph*, b. in Ashburnham Sept. 8, 1788.
III. *Polly*, b. in Ashburnham Sept. 16, 1792.
IV. *Daniel*, b. in Ashby Jan. 3, 1795.
V. *Lydia*, b. in Ashby Aug. 3, 1799.

JOHN BROWN and wife, Sarah, were in this town several years following the Revolution. The family disappears about 1790.

I. *Sarah*, b. Dec. 9, 1784.
II. *Joel*, b. May 13, 1787.

JOHN BROWN md. 1823, Dorothy Maynard, dau. of Stephen Maynard, *q. v.* He d. 1828. She md. (2d) Ohio Whitney, *q. v.*

I. *John Philander*, b. July 7, 1826; d. in this town unmd. Oct. 14, 1851.
II. *Charles Hudson*, b. Oct. 2, 1828; md. Mary Bowker; resides in Ashby.

EBENEZER BURGESS from Harvard settled in the south part of this town in 1771. In 1775 he was a sergeant in Capt. Gates' company of minute-men. He md. Anna Fairbanks, dau. of Joseph Fairbanks of Harvard and a

half sister of Cyrus Fairbanks of this town. He d. Jan. 1, 1829; she d. Sept. 11, 1830.

2 I. *Levi*, b. in Harvard; d. at two years of age.
3 II. *Ebenezer*, b. 1771; resided in this town, and was an invalid for many years; d. unmd. Feb. 16, 1811.
III. *Hannah*, b. March 30, 1773; md. Silas Smith of
4 Westminster. She d. 1867, aged 94 years.
IV. *Joseph Fairbanks*, b. April 11, 1775.+
5 V. *Jabez*, bap. 1777; d. Aug. 25, 1778.
6 VI. *Molly*, bap. 1779; d. May 19, 1780.
7 VII. *Polly*, b. March, 1781; md. Dec. 25, 1798, Charles
8 Smith of Westminster.
VIII. *Anna*, b. May 27, 1783; md. Flint McIntire of
9 Fitchburg; d. 1877, aged 94 years.
IX. *Betty*, bap. 1786; d. Dec. 12, 1794.
10 X. *Asenath*, b. Nov. 11, 1788; d. Nov. 16, 1806.
11 XI. *Mercy*, b. April 9, 1791; md. Jonas Bemis, *q. v.*;
12 md. (2d) William Whitney, *q. v.*

(5) Joseph Fairbanks Burgess md. Oct. 31, 1797, Lois Gibson Billings, dau. of Joshua Billings, *q. v.* He d. Aug. 24, 1844. She d. Aug. 17, 1863. He was a farmer in the south part of the town.

I. *Joseph F.*, b. April 21, 1799; md. 1818, Maria
13 Sawyer. He d. May 4, 1861.
II. *Joshua B.*, b. Aug. 22, 1800.+
14 III. *Mary*, b. 1803; d. Sept. 1, 1805.
15 IV. *Cornelius*, b. May 19, 1806; md. 1833, Dorothy
16 Lord of Ashby, and removed to Vermont.
V. *Jonathan*, b. April 15, 1808; md. 1832, Lois
17 Handy, dau. of George and Ruth (Estes) Handy of Richmond, N. H.; he md. (2d) 1842, Emily A. Howe, dau. of Perley Howe of Gardner; md. (3d) Mrs. Sarah Howard. They reside in Fitchburg.
VI. *Lois*, b. April 27, 1810; md. Dea. Harvey Brooks,
18 *q. v.*
VII. *Ivers*, b. Sept. 14, 1813.+
19 VIII. *Mary*, b. Jan. 25, 1817; md. Matthew E. Goodwin,
20 *q. v.*
21 IX. *Nancy*, b. Jan. 18, 1823; d. Dec. 28, 1838.

(14) Joshua B. Burgess md. 1818, Fanny Barrell of Westminster, where he resided a few years and then returned to Ashburnham and was engaged in manufacture of chairs in the South Village for many years. His wife

d. March 10, 1856, and he md. (2d) Nov. 17, 1860, Mrs. Anna M. (Thompson) Child. He d. Feb. 22, 1885. Two eldest children b. in Westminster; the others in Ashburnham.

22 I. *Joshua*, b. May 10, 1819; md. 1838, Sarah Lord of Ashby; md. (2d) 1842, Susan R. Piper of Springfield; resides in Minnesota.

23 II. *Caroline*, b. Feb. 4, 1821; md. June 29, 1836, Jonathan H. Piper, *q. v.*

24 III. *Luther*, b. Oct. 21, 1825; md. Elvira Goodfellow of Fitchburg; he is a chair maker and resides in Keene, N. H.

25 IV. *Fanny*, b. March 11, 1829; md. Abraham Bennett of Ashby; resides in Fitchburg.

26 V. *Elizabeth*, b. March 15, 1834; md. 1855, Henry H. Martindale. He was in the service in 21st Regiment. He d. Feb. 23, 1868; she resides in Fitchburg.

27 VI. *Adaline*, b. Oct. 13, 1836; md. March 11, 1865, John Chute; he was a farmer and a carpenter in this town; he d. March 10, 1876. She resides in Fitchburg.

(19) IVERS BURGESS, a farmer in this town, md. Dec. 25, 1834, Mary Gates, dau. of William Gates, *q. v.*; md. (2d) Louisa Field. He d. July 9, 1868; she d. Feb. 22, 1866.

28 I. *Arminda*, b. June 17, 1835; d. June 17, 1835.

29 II. *Jeanette*, b. July 20, 1836; md. Aug. 25, 1862, Frank Chenery of Clinton. He was killed at battle of Cold Harbor June 2, 1864. She resides in Clinton.

30 III. *Chloe E.*, b. June 18, 1838; md. Feb. 27, 1864, Lorenzo H. Gilbert. He was a veteran of 21st Regiment, was wounded in the service. They reside at Central Village.

31 IV. *Lois Melissa*, b. Jan. 8, 1840; md. Feb. 19, 1864, George F. Puffer, *q. v.*

32 V. *Ellen B.*, b. March 3, 1842; md. Harrison C. Cheney; he served three years in 21st Regiment. They reside in Union City, Penn.

33 VI. *Loring*, b. Nov. 30, 1844; resides in Brattleboro', Vt.; md. Jennie Whitney; md. (2d) Louisa Field.

34 VII. *John Morris*, b. Feb. 25, 1847; d. unmd. March 29, 1881.

35 VIII. *Marietta*, b. Sept. 13, 1849; md. Jan. 3, 1884, Edward G. Green of Clinton.

1 EDWARD BURNAP, son of Stillman and Molodia (Creed) Burnap of Fitchburg, b. June 3, 1828; md. Sept. 10, 1851, Nancy M. Daby, b. Aug. 9, 1830, dau. of Amos and Polly (Burnap) Daby of Fitchburg. He is a farmer; resides on the North Turnpike.

2 I. *Mary J.*, b. June 8, 1852; d. Sept. 30, 1867.
3 II. *Sabra A.*, b. Aug. 6, 1855; d. Oct. 4, 1867.
4 III. *Sarah A.*, b. Aug. 6, 1855; md. George J. Maxwell, son of Francis Maxwell of New Ipswich. They reside in Rindge.
5 IV. *Edward T.*, b. Nov. 3, 1864.
6 V. *Walter R.*, b. May 14, 1866.
7 VI. *Arthur H.*, b. April 14, 1871; d. 1883.

1 PYAM BURR, b. in Ashby Sept. 13, 1799, md. Dolly Gibson, dau. of Samuel Gibson, and resided many years in this town. He was a tanner. His wife d. June 20, 1857. He d. Aug. 24, 1868. The monument in the old cemetery was erected in pursuance of the conditions of his will, and the town of Ashburnham is a trustee of a sum of money to provide for the care of the burial lot. Their only child d. in infancy.

1 NATHANIEL R. BUTLER, son of Jonathan Butler, Jr., was b. in Marlow, N. H., April 11, 1808. He md. May 2, 1833, Sarah Tenney, b. Nov. 30, 1807. They removed to this town 1860.

2 I. *Mary*, b. Feb. 2, 1837; md. Jan. 11, 1857, Frederick Wright of Phillipston, where she d. May 6, 1875.
3 II. *Emma L.*, b. June 18, 1839; d. unmd. Aug. 20, 1881.
4 III. *Susie O.*, b. Oct. 11, 1843; d. Dec. 2, 1862.
5 IV. *La Roy*, b. Nov. 17, 1846; md. Dec. 27, 1848, Ella M. Ward, dau. of Isaac D. Ward, *q. v.* He was a manufacturer of wood ware in this town until 1883, when he removed to Gardner. Five children.
6 V. *Addie M.*, b. July 22, 1849; resides unmd. in this town.

1 CHARLES BUTTRICK, b. in Chelmsford March 15, 1801. removed to this town, where he md. March 23, 1826, Lucinda S. Whitcomb, dau. of Elias Whitcomb, *q. v.*; she d. March 12, 1855; he md. (2d) Oct. 5, 1858, Sarah

L. Corey, widow of Levi Corey, *q. v.* He. d. Nov. 7, 1879. Two children by first marriage.

2 I. *Aaron G.*, b. Aug. 30, 1827; md. Feb. 7, 1854, Mary Jane Dowe. Resides in Worcester.

3 II. *Mary Ann Eliza*, b. May 21, 1829; md. Nov. 21, 1849, Otis M. Samson, son of Oliver Samson, *q. v.*; md. (2d) Nov. 14, 1854, Wm. V. Thompson, son of John Thompson. He was b. in Hartland, Vt., May 12, 1822. They reside in Ashburnham.

CALDWELL.

JOHN CALDWELL, b. in England 1624, is found a resident in Ipswich in 1654, and about that date he md. Sarah Dillingham, dau. of John Dillingham who emigrated to New England 1630. He d. in Ipswich 1692; she d. Jan. 26, 1721–2. Their eldest son John md. May 1, 1689, Sarah Foster, dau. of Dea. Jacob and Martha (Kinsman) Foster and granddau. of Reginald Foster, the emigrant. He d. in Ipswich Feb. 7, 1721–2; she d. July 11, of the same year. Dea. Jacob Caldwell, third of the seven children of John and Sarah (Foster) Caldwell, was b. in Ipswich Feb. 26, 1694–5; he md. 1718, Rebecca Lull. He d. July 17, 1744; she md. (2d) 1748, Samuel Goodhue and removed to Stratham, N. H. Jacob Caldwell, eldest son of Dea. Jacob Caldwell, b. Nov. 29, 1719, removed to Watertown, where he md. Sept. 28, 1742, Anna Hastings, dau. of John and Mary Hastings. He lived a few years in Cambridge and subsequently in Woburn where he md. his second wife. Jacob Caldwell, a son of Jacob and Anna (Hastings) Caldwell, was b. in Watertown Nov. 4, 1748. In 1777 he settled in Lunenburg, where he md. June 5, 1777, Patience Sanderson, b. 1745, dau. of Abraham and Patience (Smith) Sanderson of Lunenburg. He was collector in Lunenburg 1784 and constable 1796. He d. Sept. 8, 1823. She d. Sept. 4, 1822.

1 JOHN CALDWELL, the third of the five children of Jacob and Patience (Sanderson) Caldwell, was b. in Lunenburg June 9, 1782. He removed to this town and settled on the farm now of Alden B. Marble. He was a farmer and for many years a tanner. He md. Mary Green, dau. of Oliver Green, *q. v.* She d. Sept. 4, 1843, and he md. (2d) Aug. 9, 1844, Lucretia (Wilkins) Chamberlain, widow of Joseph Chamberlain of New Ipswich. He d. Oct 21, 1871; she d. Aug. 18, 1877.

2 I. *John*, b. Dec. 20, 1802; md. Sept. 26, 1826, Abigail G. Fuller, dau. of John and Eunice (Wetherbee) Fuller. She d. July 16, 1835; he md. (2d) April 7, 1838, Abigail C. Garland. He was a tanner in Fitchburg, where he d. Jan. 10, 1859. Six children.

3 II. *Oliver Green*, b. Jan. 7, 1805.+

4 III. *Lucy*, b. Sept. 15, 1806; md. John Adams, 3d, *q. v.*

5 iv. *Mary*, b. June 5, 1808; md. Samuel Woods, *q. v.*
6 v. *Elizabeth*, b. March 15, 1810; md. Elbridge Stimson, *q. v.*
7 vi. *Sarah* (twin), b. March 15, 1810; md. Aug. 2, 1840, Sylvester Wheeler of Dublin, N. H. They resided in Ashburnham, where he d. Sept. 23, 1849; she d. Feb. 23, 1871.
8 1. Sarah Elizabeth, b. Oct. 9, 1844; d. unmd. April 27, 1883.
9 2. Ellen M., b. 1846; d. July 23, 1861.
10 vii. *Dorothy H.*, b. April 30, 1812; md. Joseph Miller; md. (2d) John Lawrence of Concord. She d. in Leominster 1883.
11 viii. *Harriet P.*, b. April 4, 1817; md. Oct. 4, 1837, George R. Mansfield of Ashby. They removed to Rutland, Vt.
12 ix. *Frances*, b. Jan 1, 1820; md. Israel A. Packard, *q. v.*
x. *Nancy*, b. Jan. 10, 1822; d., unmd., in Ashburn-
13 ham July 10, 1848.

(3) Oliver G. Caldwell resided in this town until 1855, when he removed to Leominster. He was a prominent citizen and for several years he was engaged in the manufacture of tubs and pails. He md. Oct. 28, 1828, Mary W. Ellis, dau. of Jesse Ellis, *q. v.* She d. Sept. 5, 1833. He md. (2d) March 13, 1835, Martha Lincoln who d. 1878. He d. in Leominster Aug. 28, 1885.

14 i. *Martha Elizabeth*, b. April 3, 1837; md. Jan. 7, 1863, John W. H. Lawrence, b. in Concord Sept. 14, 1837, son of John Lawrence. They reside in Leominster. Three children.
15 ii. *Abbie Lincoln*, b. Aug. 14, 1844; resides in Leominster.

1 James Cashman, son of Timothy and Joanna (Malony) Cashman, was b. in Cork Co., Ireland, 1816. He md. in Concord, N. H., Oct. 27, 1848, Catherine Corcoran and came to Ashburnham 1850. Eleven children.

2 i. *Timothy*, b. Aug. 29, 1849; resides in Connecticut.
3 ii. *Anna*, b. Dec. 7, 1850; unmd.
4 iii. *John*, b. March 18, 1852; md. Margaret Ryan; resides in Brockton.
5 iv. *Ellen*, b. June 5, 1853; md. John Kirby of Fitchburg.
6 v. *Mary*, b. July 4, 1855; unmd.
7 vi. *James*, b. Oct. 30, 1856; unmd.

8 VII. *Thomas*, b. Dec. 9, 1857; md. Katie Moore.
9 VIII. *Edward*, b. Feb. 2, 1859; unmd.
10 IX. *Daniel*, b. June 22, 1860; unmd.
11 X. *William*, d. young.
12 XI. *Julia*, b. Oct. 18, 1863; unmd.

1 TIMOTHY CHAFFIN with wife Sarah removed to this town from Harvard in April, 1775. This name is sometimes written Chaplin but the name probably was Chaffin. The father and one son were soldiers in the Revolution and removed from town soon after the war. They were here in 1784 but disappear soon after.

2 I. *David.*
3 II. *Levi.*
4 III. *Lucy*, md. Feb. 26, 1784, Roswell Stevens of Claremont, N. H.
5 IV. *Molly*, b. 1769; d. May 25, 1776.
6 V. *Miriam*, b. Feb. 23, 1771.
7 VI. *Timothy*, b. April 22, 1773.
8 VII. *John*, b. Aug. 19, 1775.
9 VIII. *Sarah*, b. Nov. 18, 1778.

1 JOHN CHAMBERLAIN resided in this town a few years and in 1779 he removed to Ashby. He was in the war in 1778 in Capt. Edgell's Co., and his name appears a few times in the records of the town with unimportant mention. The name of his wife was Abigail. The records of Ashby preserve the names of four children.

2 I. *Rufus.*
3 II. *Mary.*
4 III. *Nabby.*
5 IV. *John*, b. Oct. 8, 1779.

6 AUGUSTUS A. CHAMBERLAIN, son of David and Abigail (Chadwick) Chamberlain of Jaffrey, N. H., was b. in Jaffrey Aug. 11, 1813. He md. Nov. 19, 1839, Sarah A. Towne, dau. of Green and Lucy (Rand) Towne of Rindge. They resided in Rindge and subsequently in Jaffrey and removed to this town in 1866. He served in 6th N. H. Volunteers from Nov. 28, 1861, to June 18, 1862.

7 I. *Sarah A.*, b. July 28, 1840; md. Nov. 19, 1862, Frank B. Sawtelle. He was in the service one year in 20th Regiment and one year in 2d Heavy Artillery. He d. Nov. 24, 1883.
8 II. *Ermina L.*, b. March 18, 1842; md. Nov. 19,

1862, Milo O. Evans. He enlisted on quota of Deerfield June 10, 1864, in 2d Heavy Artillery and d. at Smithville, N. C., Aug. 30, 1865. Mrs. Evans was postmaster of Ashburnham from 1876 to 1886.

1 Dea. Tristram Cheney from Sudbury settled on the farm now of Henry Tuckerman about 1758. In 1763 he was admitted to the church on letter of recommendation from the "West church in Sudbury." He was a prominent citizen and it appears in Chap. IV, that while he remained in this town no one was more actively engaged in public affairs. In 1769 he was elected a deacon of the church in Ashburnham and was dismissed from the office at his request 1773. Between these dates he removed to Antrim, N. H. He was elected surveyor of clapboards 1769, but after that date his familiar name fades from the records of Ashburnham. For many years he resided in Antrim and was connected with the church in Hillsborough and perhaps resided some years in the latter town. In 1804 he removed to Vermont and d. in Danville 1816, aged 96 years. Dea. Cheney md. in Sudbury Nov. 28, 1745, Margaret Joyner. Their eldest children were b. probably in Sudbury. The birth of two is recorded in this town. In the following record it is not presumed that the order of age is preserved.

2 i. *Tristram*, was in Antrim a few years.
3 ii. *John*, removed to Ohio.
4 iii. *William*, resided and d. in Acworth, N. H.
5 iv. *Mary*, was in Ashburnham 1776.
6 v. *Elizabeth*, md. Timothy Wood, *q. v.*
7 vi. *Susannah*, b. in Ashburnham Nov. 2, 1759.
8 vii. *Elias*, b. in Ashburnham March 8, 1760; resided in Antrim, N. H., until 1804. Three years in the Revolutionary army. D. in Concord, Vt., 1816. He md. —— Blanchard; md. (2d) Deborah Winchester, dau. of Samuel Winchester. Seven children by first and six by second marriage. His son Jesse, b. Oct. 3, 1788, md. Nov. 25, 1813, Alice Steele; lived in Hillsborough, Francestown and Manchester, N. H., where he d. June 23, 1863. Benjamin P., James S. and Gilman Cheney of Cheney's United States and Canada Express are sons of Jesse and great-grandsons of Dea. Tristram Cheney.

1 FRANCIS CHILLER, a native of Canada, was b. Dec. 12, 1846; removed to this town 1865. He md. Nov. 6, 1866, Sarah Graveslin, dau. of Francis Graveslin of Montpelier, Vt. He is foreman in the Tub Factory of Geo. G. Rockwood.

2 I. *Frank E.*, b. Aug. 16, 1867.

1 THOMAS M. CHOATE, son of Rufus and Betsey (Maynard) Choate, was b. in Windsor, Me., March 6, 1818. He removed to this town 1852 and has followed the occupation of a painter in the chair shops. He md. Oct. 20, 1845, Julia Ann DeC. Paine, b. March 17, 1824, dau. of Pascal and Ruth (Bowen) Paine. Pascal Paine d. in this town June 24, 1866, and Ruth (Bowen) Paine, May 11, 1878.

2 I. *Emily Frances*, b. Feb. 8, 1849; d. Dec. 21, 1869.
3 II. *Clara Ann*, b. Jan. 25, 1854; d. May 21, 1868.
4 III. *Julia Thomas*, b. June 7, 1858; resides unmd. in this town.
5 IV. *Nellie Josephine*, b. March 3, 1862; resides unmd. in this town.
6 V. *Benjamin Franklin*, b. Oct. 2, 1863; d. Sept. 8, 1868.

1 DAVID CLARK in 1765 was a resident of Ashburnham. Possibly he settled here previous to that date. It is a current tradition that he came from Concord and that his children were b. there, but no mention of their birth appears in the Concord records. Mr. Clark and three of his sons served in the Revolution. *Vide* Chap. V. He d. of cancer Oct. 29, 1800. Mr. Cushing appends to the record "aged between 70 and 80 years." It is not certain that all the children are included in this register.

2 I. *David*, b. Oct. 19, 1758.+
3 II. *Daniel*, b. 1760.+
4 III. *Benjamin*, b. 1762. Removed 1787 to Reading, Vt.
5 IV. *Molly*. She was a mute; d. May 18, 1824.

(2) DAVID CLARK md. July 17, 1791, Sarah Davis, dau. of Capt. Deliverance Davis, *q. v.* He resided in this town until his death July 5, 1841. He is well remembered and was a prominent character among the Revolutionary heroes. His wife d. Oct. 10, 1823.

6 I. *Levi*, b. Feb. 15, 1792.+
7 II. *Lucy* (twin), b. Feb. 15, 1792; md. February 11, 1818, Merari Spalding. Removed to Cuncord, Me., where he was drowned July 13, 1834.
III. *Deliverance*, b. Dec. 31, 1793; d. July 31, 1857.
8 IV. *Dorothy*, b. Oct. 28, 1795; md. Jeremiah Metcalf,
9 *q. v.*
V. *Grata*, b. Aug. 16, 1797; md. Ichabod Mason;
10 md. (2d) —— Burnell; resides in Maine.
VI. *Lydia*, b. Sept. 8, 1799; md. Lewis L. Willard,
11 *q. v.*
VII. *Sarah Davis*, b. Jan. 17, 1804; md. Nov. 16, 1828,
12 Amos Haynes of Sudbury.
VIII. *Infant*, b. and d. July 30, 1806.
13 IX. *George Washington*, b. Oct. 21, 1810; d. June 11,
14 1823.

(3) Daniel Clark md. Oct. 4, 1785, Molly Ames of Rindge. He was not burdened with the goods of this world and resided at different times in several parts of the town. He d. Oct. 7, 1800. His widow md. Timothy Angier, *q. v.* Tradition and the records furnish information of seven children.

15 I. *David*, b. Sept. 3, 1786; md. 1819, Polly Bridge; removed to Northfield.
16 II. *Anna*, b. June 12, 1788; d. unmd.
17 III. *Thomas Ames*, b. July 30, 1790.
18 IV. *Asenath*, b. Dec. 10, 1792; md. —— Darling; md. (2d) 1827, Paul Davis of Ashby.
19 V. *Molly*, b. July 27, 1795; md. Sept. 10, 1816, Amos Sprague of Ashby.
20 VI. *Zilpah*, md. —— Robbins and resided in Northfield.
21 VII. *Charlotte*, md. April 17, 1834, Henry P. Hawks.

(6) Levi Clark was a farmer in this town. He md. Abigail Pratt, dau. of Job and Mercy (Williams) Pratt of Fitzwilliam, N. H.; she d. Oct. 8, 1859. He d. Jan. 19, 1862.

22 I. *George P.*, b. Nov. 30, 1814. In childhood he was called Job Clark; the name was changed in 1834. He md. Sarah Adams, dau. of Daniel and Dinah (Metcalf) Adams of Gardner. He d. Dec. 9, 1843; she md. John Cook, Jr., *q. v.*

23 1. Harvey, b. 1840. Served three years in 25th Regiment; md. Adaline P. Hinds,

dau. of Francis Hinds, *q. v.* Resides in Gardner.

24 II. *Emeline W.*, b. June 16, 1816; md. Humphrey Harris, *q. v.*

25 III. *Luthera*, b. June 26, 1818; d. March 8, 1838.

26 IV. *Charles*, b. May 29, 1820; md. Sept. 6, 1840, Martha Ann Taylor, dau. of Ephraim Taylor, *q. v.* He d. Jan. 30, 1879.

27 1. Martha A., b. July 27, 1842; d. May 4, 1858.

28 2. Charles N., b. Feb. 27, 1846; d. Jan. 11, 1852.

29 3. George, b. March 26, 1850; md. Sept. 7, 1874, Ada L. Ramsdell, dau. of George Ramsdell of New Ipswich. She d. Dec., 1883.

30 4. Harvey, b. Oct. 28, 1853; md. Oct. 29, 1879, Nellie I. Knox. Resides in Westfield.

31 V. *Luther*, b. March 31, 1822; md. March 31, 1841, Mary C. Corey, dau. of Stillman Corey, *q. v.* She d. Nov. 23, 1870; md. (2d) Jan. 27, 1885, Charlena (Buzzell) Tilton, dau. of Reuben A. and Eliza (Cook) Buzzell, and widow of Solomon C. Tilton of Rindge.

32 1. Alfred F., b. Feb. 4, 1842; md. July 27, 1862, Linda R. Bixby, dau. of Joel R. Bixby, *q. v.* They reside in this town.

33 2. Sarah Maria, b. Feb. 15, 1844; md. Martin V. B. Davis, son of Amos Davis; d. Aug. 19, 1870.

34 3. Mary Elizabeth, b. June 7, 1846; d. unmd. Nov. 6, 1872.

35 4. Lucy, b. Feb. 8, 1849; md. Sept. 1, 1868, Theo. L. Goodnow of Ashby.

36 5. Eliza Ellen, b. June 10, 1852; md. Jan. 5, 1872, Martin V. B. Davis.

37 6. Georgiana, b. July 28, 1854; md. Sept. 18, 1876, Henry C. Newell. Wholesale dealer in meat.

38 7. John L., b. April 7, 1856; md. Jan. 25, 1882, Abbie Jane Forristall, dau. of John M. and Mary J. (Wright) Forristall of Winchendon.

39 8. Jennie L., b. Oct. 15, 1858; md. Oct. 5, 1882, Hollis Mossman of this town.

40 vi. *Sarah D.*, b. June 27, 1824; md. Oct. 11, 1849, Handell Winship, son of Cyrus Winship of Westminster; she d. Jan. 10, 1875.
41 vii. *Joseph Elliot*, b. July 26, 1826; md. April 15, 1847, Louisa A. Hinds, dau. of Francis Hinds, *q. v.*
42 viii. *Dorothy Metcalf*, b. Sept. 18, 1828; md. Nahum Wood, *q. v.*

43 Joseph Clark and wife Eunice resided in this town a short time, about 1780. It is not known that he was related to the above named family. The records assert the birth of one child in this town.

44 i. *John*, b. Nov. 18, 1779.

45 Samuel Clark and wife Eunice resided in this town several years early in the present century. His early and subsequent history is unknown.

46 i. *Susannah M.*, b. July 6, 1807.
47 ii. *Aaron B.*, b. Dec. 1, 1809.
48 iii. *Joseph*, b. Aug. 20, 1811.

1 Ephraim Cobleigh removed to this town during the last decade of the past century. From 1787 to 1797 no tax lists are preserved. He is taxed here in 1798 and subsequently. He was by occupation a shoemaker. He d. Jan. 9, 1825. His widow Ruth md. Nov. 24, 1831, Benjamin Fuller, then of Fitchburg; he removed to this town, where he d. Feb. 8, 1838; she md. (3d) 1839, Joel Foster, *q. v.* By these marriages there was no issue. Catherine Fuller, a dau. of William Fuller by a former marriage, d. in this town Jan. 17, 1868, aged 66 years.

1 James Coleman, sometimes written Colman, and wife Rachel, removed from Ipswich to the northeast part of the town in 1743. About the same time Dea. Moses Foster settled near him. To them falls the distinction of being the first permanent settlers in Dorchester Canada. During the troublous times from 1745 to 1749 it is known that Mr. Foster, retiring within the line of the block-houses, resided in Lunenburg. It is not probable that Mr. Coleman remained all the time during this period of insecurity in Dorchester Canada. However, he is found here continuously after 1750. For several years the nearest church was in Lunenburg, and in 1743 Mr. Coleman and

his wife brought letters from the church in Ipswich and united with it. In 1760, when the church was organized in Dorchester Canada, they transferred their church relations. From the record of this proceeding it has been erroneously inferred that Mr. Coleman at that time removed from Lunenburg to this place. The records of every year afford ample evidence that except during the years 1745 to 1749, of which little is known, Mr. Coleman resided continuously in this town. He was appointed on committees by the proprietors and was held in high esteem by his associates. In 1765, at the first town meeting in Ashburnham, he was chosen one of the selectmen and a surveyor of the highways. When Ashby was incorporated his house and his lands were included in that town, where his descendants have been numerous. He d. Aug. 15, 1773.

2 I. *Rachel*, md. Daniel Harper, *q. v.*

3 II. *Elizabeth.*

4 III. *Job*, md. Feb. 20, 1766, Elizabeth Martin, dau. of John Martin, *q. v.*; he resided in this town several years after his father and younger brothers became residents of Ashby. He was here in 1770 and in 1775 he was residing in Shelburne.

5 1. Samuel, bap. in Ashburnham, 1769.

6 IV. *Mary*, bap. in Lunenburg July 8, 1744.

7 V. *Aaron*, bap. in Lunenburg Aug. 24, 1746; md. Feb., 1772, Eleanor Boynton of Lunenburg. After residing in Ashby a few years he lived a short time in this town.

8 1. Nellie, b. Dec. 3, 1772.

9 VI. *Benjamin*, bap. in Lunenburg Aug. 3, 1749; md. Dec. 25, 1770, Susannah Martin, dau. of John Martin, *q. v.* He was a prominent citizen of Ashby. Town Clerk 1794–8.

10 VII. *Solomon*, b. June 20, 1752. After a residence in Ashby and in Sharon, N. H., he removed to this town in 1776. He md. 1776, Hepsibah Davis of Ashby.

11 1. Lucy, b. July 28, 1777.

12 2. Isaac, b. Feb. 8, 1779.

13 3. Lavina, b. Sept. 4, 1780.

14 4. Hepsibah, b. June 12, 1782.

15 5. Sally, b. March 31, 1784.

16 6. Lydia, b. Dec. 30, 1785.

17 7. Anna, b. Oct. 14, 1787.
18 8. James, b. Feb 5, 1791.

19 VIII. *Ruth*, b. Oct. 23, 1754.
20 IX. *Abigail*, b. Sept. 26, 1758; md. 1774, Jacob Lewis of Ashby.

EBENEZER CONANT, the first of the name in Ashburnham, was of the fourth generation in America. He was a son of Roger and Mary (Raymond) Conant, a grandson of Lot and Elizabeth (Walton) Conant and a great-grandson of Roger and Sarah Conant, the emigrant ancestors. Roger Conant, father of Ebenezer, removed from Beverly to Concord about 1720 and was living in 1745.

1 EBENEZER CONANT was b. in Beverly Dec. 30, 1698, and removed to Concord with his father where he resided until 1762, when he removed to Ashburnham. He was a man of character and influence and his name receives frequent and honorable mention in the annals of his time. He md. Ruth Pierce. He d. Oct. 24, 1784; she d. Nov. 19, 1797, "aged over 80 years."

2 I. *Mary*, b. Feb. 17, 1734.
3 II. *Lydia*, b. Aug. 12, 1737.
4 III. *Hannah*, b. Feb. 12, 1740; md. Josiah Dodge of Ashburnham, *q. v.*
5 IV. *Ebenezer*, b. Aug. 11, 1743.+
6 V. *Eunice*, b. Dec. 4, 1745.
7 VI. *Abigail*, b. Oct. 27, 1749; md. —— Sellingham. *Vide* Selham register.
8 VII. *Ruth*, b. Aug. 11, 1752; md. Sept. 8, 1774, Moses Ware of Fitzwilliam, N. H.
9 VIII. *Elizabeth*, b. April 8, 1755; md. Moses Tottingham, *q. v.*

(5) EBENEZER CONANT, JR., was a prominent citizen of this town. He was a lieutenant in Capt. Davis' company 1775, and also served nine months in the Continental army in 1779. He resided and built a mill at the outlet of Rice pond and his name is frequently mentioned in the early chapters of the History of Ashburnham. He md. Nov. 29, 1766, Lydia Oak of Harvard. He d. Aug. 3, 1783, and his widow with six surviving children continued a residence in this town until the sons had grown up and had settled in Brandon, Vt., where one of the daughters, the wife of Capt. David Merriam, was residing. Many of the descendants of Ebenezer Conant have been distinguished in literary and business pursuits. The following children were b. in Ashburnham.

10 i. *Lydia*, b. Nov. 21, 1768; d. 1776.
11 ii. *Sarah*, b. Oct. 17, 1770; md. Jonathan Merriam, *q. v.*
12 iii. *John*, b. Feb. 2, 1773.+
13 iv. *Elizabeth*, b. March 15, 1775; md. Capt. David Merriam, *q. v.*
14 v. *Ebenezer*, b. June 6, 1777. Removed to Brandon, Vt., 1816, and to Geneva, Ill., about 1833. He md. Rebecca Stuart; (2d) Fanny Clifford; (3d) Polly Olive Wright. Seven children; among them Rev. Augustus Hammond Conant, a Unitarian clergyman of Geneva and Rockford, Ill.
15 vi. *Calvin*, b. May 30, 1779; md. Esther Rich of Pittsford, Vt. Removed to Putnam, Ohio. Six children.
16 vii. *Luther*, b. June 24, 1782; md. Regina Bemis and removed to Geneva, Ill., where he d. 1835. Five children.

(12) John Conant, son of Ebenezer, Jr., and Lydia (Oak) Conant, md. in Ashburnham Nov. 20, 1794, Charity Broughton, dau. of Wait Broughton, *q. v.* He resided in this town until 1798, when he removed to Brandon, Vt., where he was active and prosperous in business. He was a presidential elector 1844 and occupied many positions of trust.

17 i. *Cynthia*, b. in Ashburnham June 2, 1795; md. Dr. J. F. Merriam of Brandon.
18 ii. *Samuel Stillman*, b. in Ashburnham March 26, 1797; md. 1817, Elizabeth Mills. Resided in Brooklyn, N. Y. Six children.
19 iii. *Chauncey Washington*, b. Jan. 11, 1799; md. 1821, Rachel Fuller; resided in Brandon. Three children.
20 iv. *Thomas Jefferson*, b. Dec. 13, 1802; md. July 12, 1830, Hannah Chaplin; resides in Brooklyn, N. Y. A noted Hebrew scholar, he was engaged in the revision of the Old Testament and has been an esteemed contributor to Appletons' Encyclopedia. His son, Samuel Stillman Conant, recently deceased, has been managing editor of the New York *Times* and for many years business editor of *Harpers' Weekly;* another son, Thomas Oakes Conant, is in the U. S. Assay Office in New York and has published a collection of poems.

21 v. *Sophronia*, b. May 14, 1805; md. Samuel Heard of Chicago, Ill.
22 vi. *Caroline C.*, b. March 8, 1807; md. James Long of Chicago.
23 vii. *Clara*, b. May 21, 1809; md. Rev. Dr. Pharcellus Church, an eminent divine, now of Tarrytown, N. Y.; their son, William C. Church, is editor of the *Army and Navy Journal*, New York.
24 viii. *Frances Maria*, b. May 29, 1812; md. Rev. B. Brierly of San Francisco, Cal.

25 JONATHAN CONANT and wife Eunice resided in this town a few years between 1760 and 1770, and possibly for a longer period. He was probably a son of Israel and Martha (Lamson) Conant, and if so he was b. in Concord Feb. 3, 1733, and was a nephew of Ebenezer Conant, Sen. Three children were b. in this town.

26 i. *William*, b. Aug. 17, 1765.
27 ii. *Jonathan*, b. Jan. 14, 1767.
28 iii. *Israel*, b. Oct. 30, 1768.

29 LYMAN CONANT resided in the Central Village several years, beginning about 1828, and was engaged in the manufacture of chairs. He was a son of Josiah and Annis (Derby) Conant and was b. in Gardner Aug. 12, 1805. He md. Emma Wells. Two children were b. in this town.

30 i. *Charlotte Caroline*, b. Sept. 3, 1831.
31 ii. *Mary Elizabeth*, b. July 3, 1833.

CONN.

Among the sturdy and frugal emigrants, who came to America from the province of Ulster in the north of Ireland, about 1720, was George Conn. These emigrants were Presbyterians, and in their general character were distinguished for industry, thrift and intelligence. They are called Scotch-Irish from the fact that they were descendants of Scots who had resided some time in Ireland. The circumstances of the emigration from Scotland to Ireland and from Ireland to America, their maintenance of their religion, their progress in education and the industrial arts, their thrift under governmental restraint and their sturdy, unbending characteristics under persecution present a most interesting study. The impress of their character in every community in which they have resided has been conspicuous. Most frequently they settled in colonies. George Conn separated from his kindred and settled in Harvard, and there reared a large family and his descendants have carried the name to many towns in New England. John Conn of Ashburnham was his son. The descendants of George Conn, another son of the emigrant, have resided and are now living in several towns in New Hampshire and Massachusetts.

1 JOHN CONN, the first of the name in Ashburnham, son of George Conn the emigrant, was b. in Harvard 1740. He came to this town probably in 1761. He was a prominent citizen and his name is frequently mentioned in the list of town officers. He was a lieutenant in one of the companies of minute-men and attended the company to Cambridge in April, 1775. He md. Feb. 24, 1762, Ruth Davis of Harvard, and d. in this town June 3, 1803, aged 63 years.

2 I. *Elizabeth*, b. Feb. 14, 1763.

3 II. *Mary*, b. June 14, 1764; md. Phinehas Hemenway, *q. v.*

4 III. *Lydia*, b. Dec. 26, 1765; d. April 12, 1786.

5 IV. *John*, b. Aug. 6, 1768.+

6 V. *George*, b. July 19, 1770. He removed to New York and resided near Lake Champlain. No information of his family has been secured, except that he md. 1792, Dilly Brown.

7 VI. *Susannah*, b. June 16, 1772; md. David Wallis, *q. v.*

8 VII. *Ruth*, b. Aug. 12, 1774; md. July 3, 1797, Oliver Blood of Groton and subsequently of Harvard.

9 VIII. *Lucy* (twin), b. Aug. 12, 1774; md. April 25, 1796, Eleazer Spalding, son of Eleazer Spalding of Chelmsford and Townsend. They resided in Ashby, where she d. Aug. 16, 1825. He d. June 22, 1837.

10 1. Luther, b. July 27, 1797; md. Susan Gregory, b. Aug. 9, 1801, dau. of Josiah Gregory; resided in Ashby.

11 2. Alfred, b. March 15, 1799; md. Betsey Lawrence. They resided in Ashby.

12 3. Lucy, b. July 30, 1801; md. Jonathan Whitney, resided in Sterling.

13 4. Syrene, b. Oct. 29, 1804.

14 5. Eleazer, b. Nov. 4, 1816; md. Sophronia Smith, dau. of Silas and Anna (Watson) Smith of Rindge; resides in New Ipswich.

15 IX. *Margaret*, b. 1778; bap. Sept. 13; md. Nov. 28, 1799, Abel Hunt, son of Abel Hunt of Templeton. They resided in Ashburnham and in Templeton. The partial record of one child has been secured.

16 1. Ezra, b. 1809; d. in Sterling Dec. 31, 1853.

(5) JOHN CONN md. Mary Farwell, probably a dau. of Samuel and Elizabeth (Shed) Farwell of Pepperell. He was a substantial farmer in this town. He d. May 2, 1803, aged 35 years. She d. Oct, 1, 1830, aged 60 years.

17 I. *Infant*, b. and d. 1790.
18 II. *John*, b. Jan. 30, 1794.+
19 III. *Lydia*, md. Charles Munroe, *q. v.*

(18) JOHN CONN was a prominent citizen of Ashburnham. He was a farmer and a manufacturer of chairs. His upright character and excellent qualities are attested by many now living. He md. Sept. 26, 1816, Eunice Rice, dau. of Reuben Rice, *q. v.* She d. June 26, 1828; he md. (2d) Sept. 19, 1829, Matilda Rice, a sister of his first wife. He d. April 1, 1864. She d. April 7, 1881.

20 I. *John Austin*, b. April 10, 1817; md. Sept. 18, 1843, Nancy Maria Petts, dau. of John Petts, *q. v.* He resided in this town and later in Fitchburg, where he d. May 22, 1885.

21 1. Eunice Maria, b. Sept. 6, 1844; md. Wilbur N. Priest.
22 2. Edwin Austin, b. Nov. 6, 1846; d. Sept. 4, 1848.
23 3. Abbie Eliza. b. Nov. 25, 1848.
24 4. Frances Adeline, b. Sept. 11, 1850; d. March 5, 1851.
25 5. Charles Reuben, b. May 26, 1852.

26 II. *Reuben Rice*, b. Nov. 10, 1825; md. Oct. 13, 1852, Harriet E. Harding, dau. of Rev. Charles R. and Nancy (Barrows) Harding. He is a silversmith and jeweller in Fitchburg.

27 1. Edward, b. July 20, 1853; d. Sept. 10, 1854.
28 2. Lucy Maria, b. July 20, 1855; md. Nov. 24, 1881, J. H. Potter.
29 3. Herbert W., b. Jan. 10, 1859; md. 1885, Julia Joel. He is Professor of Biology in Wesleyan University, Middletown, Conn.
30 4. Lillie B., b. April 6, 1869.

31 III. *Edwin*, b. May, 1828; d. June 25, 1832.

CONSTANTINE.

The first family of this name residing in Ashburnham consisted of a widow and her son Jacob. The husband and father d. previous to their removal

to this town. The date of their arrival is uncertain and there is no evidence that they came with the first German families in 1758, but not many years later they were residing on the Kibling farm. There being no male member of the family of an age to participate in town affairs the name does not appear upon the records until the son Jacob arrived to the dignity of manhood. In 1785 John Kiblinger and Jacob Constantine exchanged farms, each farm containing one hundred and thirty acres. The widow Constantine d. in this town April 25, 1782, aged about 70 years. There are many traditions concerning the history of the father of Jacob Constantine, but each one contradicts another and they agree on only the one point that he d. before the family removed to this town. All the Constantines of Ashburnham are descendants of Jacob the son, whose family record appears in the following register.

1 JACOB CONSTANTINE, b. 1752, md. July 6, 1773, Elizabeth Whiteman, dau. of Christian William Whiteman, *q. v.* He was an enterprising citizen, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War and subsequently became the owner of considerable land in this town. March 4, 1814, he was thrown from his sleigh in Ashby and d. March 8 from injuries received. His wife was with him at the time of the accident but escaped without serious injury.

2 I. *Anna*, b. April 9, 1774; md. Thomas Foot of New Haven, Vt.
3 II. *Jacob*, b. April 27, 1776.+
4 III. *Elizabeth*, b. July 19, 1778; md. Almon Bennett, *q. v.*
5 IV. *Caty*, b. Nov. 27, 1780; d. Oct. 23, 1800.
6 V. *William*, b. Feb. 16, 1782; md. Eliza Holmes of Virginia. He d. 1847, in Wallingford, Vt. No children.
7 VI. *Sally*, b. Aug. 1, 1785; d. young.
8 VII. *Joel*, b. Feb. 23, 1788.+
9 VIII. *John*, b. 1791; d. Feb. 1, 1800.
10 IX. *Amy*, b. 1793; d. Feb. 5, 1800.
11 X. *Oliver*, b. Nov. 20, 1795; md. Olive Keyes of Wallingford, Vt. He d. 1829 by accident in Cuttingsville, Vt.

(3) JACOB CONSTANTINE, JR., md. 1797, Eunice Sawin, dau. of Jonathan and Mary (Whitney) Sawin of Westminster. He resided in this town a few years, and then removed to Wallingford, Vt. Subsequently he returned to this town, where he remained several years. Late in life he removed to Mount Holley, Vt., where he d. Jan. 12, 1847; she d. Aug. 29, 1849. They had nine children.

12 I. *Jacob.*
13 II. *John*, md. Sophia Britton, of Westmoreland, N.

H. He resided in Malone, N. Y., where he d. 1884.

14 III. *James*, md. Martha Britton of Westmoreland, N. H. He resided in Malone and subsequently in Westville Centre, N. Y., where he d. 1882.

15 IV. *Chloe*, md. Everett Gates, *q. v.*

16 V. *Laura*, md. Asa Bennett, *q. v.*; md. (2d) John Adams, *q. v.*

17 VI. *Sally*, md. Henry Allen, son of Benjamin and Asenath (Coleman) Allen of Ashby. Resides in East Wallingford, Vt. He d. Feb. 11, 1885.

18 VII. *Jacob S.*, md. Sept. 1, 1833, Nancy Derby of Westminster. He resides in Cuttingsville, Vt.

19 VIII. *Lucinda*, b. July 3, 1812; md. Dec. 10, 1838, Washington Fuller, son of Joseph and Annie (Knight) Fuller of Westmoreland, N. H. They resided in Westmoreland, Keene, N. H., and Springfield, Mass., where she d. Jan. 27, 1879. They had three children.

20 1. George Washington, b. Sept. 11, 1839.

21 2. Levi Knight, b. Feb. 24, 1841; md. May 8, 1865, Abbie E. Estey, dau. of Jacob Estey of Brattleboro, Vt. Col. Fuller for many years has been an active member of the firm of J. Estey & Co., organ manufacturers and is vice-president of the corporation. He is an influential factor in the political and public affairs of the State of Vermont. Since this register was written he has been elected Lieutenant-Governor of Vermont.

22 3. Mary Ann, b. Sept. 18, 1845; d. unmd. Oct. 15, 1880.

23 IX. *Mary*, d. young.

(8) JOEL CONSTANTINE md. Jan. 27, 1811, Asenath Grimes, b. April 11, 1782, dau. of Joseph and Huldah (Wheelock) Grimes of Hubbardston. He removed in 1815 to Wallingford, Vt. He was a farmer and at Wallingford he had a saw-mill which he conducted in connection with his farm. He d. Jan. 13, 1857; she d. Oct. 7, 1861.

24 I. *Alfred Alexander*, b. May 5, 1812. He is a clergyman residing at Summit, N. J., and has been in Africa under the auspices of the Baptist Missions. He md. July 2, 1840, Mary Fales; she d. June 29, 1874.

25 II. *Eliza C.*, b. Feb. 5, 1814; d. Sept. 3, 1815.
26 III. *George*, b. Sept. 25, 1816; d. unmd. Aug. 10, 1852.
27 IV. *Austin*, b. May 9, 1827; md. Urania Ann Thompson; she d. April 21, 1860; md. (2d) Rosanna Cook who d. Jan. 22, 1865. He removed from Vermont to Vineland, N. J., where he md. (3d) Jan. 2, 1872, Mary J. Sturges.

1 JOHN COOK md. Anna Beal and resided in Winchendon near the border of this town. So many of his children became allied by marriage to Ashburnham families that a brief record is given. They had thirteen children.
2 I. *Anna*, b. July 21, 1798; md. John Lane, *q. v.*
3 II. *Tryphena*, b. Sept. 9, 1799; md. 1819, Thomas Flint, son of Thomas and Abigail (Brown) Flint of Winchendon; removed to State of New York.
4 III. *Mary F.*, b. April 23, 1801; md. Samuel Baldwin, *q. v.*
5 IV. *John*, b. March 20, 1803; d. an infant.
6 V. *John*, b. March 15, 1805.+
7 VI. *Deborah*, b. July 30, 1806; md. Joel Merriam, *q. v.*
8 VII. *Martin*, b. March 1, 1808; resided on the homestead in Winchendon.
9 VIII. *Clara*, b. Jan. 26, 1810; md. Nov. 27, 1833, Milo Derby, *q. v.*
10 IX. *Edward*, b. June 12, 1812; d. in St. Louis; his son, Lemuel W. Cook, is a photographer in Boston.
11 X. *Ivers*, b. May 21, 1814; resides in Westminster, Vt.; md. Dorothy Miller. Four children.
12 XI. *Abigail*, b. May 17, 1816; md. Abner Moore, son of William and Mary (Fitch) Moore of Sharon, N. H. Three children.
13 XII. *Eliza*, b. March 26, 1820; md. 1842, Reuben A. Buzzell and resided several years in this town. They removed to Rindge 1862, where she d. June 4, 1883. Five children.
14 XIII. *Joanna*, b. Aug. 15, 1822; md. John N. Richardson; resided in Fitzwilliam, N. H., and Winchendon. He is a merchant.

(6) JOHN COOK, JR., md. April 3, 1832, Roxanna Lane, dau. of Benjamin Lane, *q. v.* She d. Feb. 24, 1834. He md. (2d) Nov. 12, 1834, Cynthia Metcalf, dau. of Jeremiah Metcalf, *q. v.* She d. June 19, 1844, and he md. (3d)

Sarah (Adams) Clark, widow of George Clark, *q. v.* He removed from town about 1860 and is now residing at Brighton, Ill. The following names include one child by first, four by second, and three by the third marriage.

15 i. *Sarah Roxanna*, b. Oct. 6, 1833; md. 1851, Jacob Hart of Keene; she resides, a widow, at Bellows Falls, Vt.

16 ii. *George William*, b. Nov. 20, 1836; d. unmd. Oct. 9, 1855.

17 iii. *Leonard Newton*, b. Oct. 10, 1838; d. in St. Louis 1866.

18 iv. *Martha J.*, b. Jan. 3, 1840: md. Oct. 9, 1861, Prentiss A. Maynard of Keene, N. H. He d. June 23. 1869; md. (2d) Sept. 10, 1879, Andrew J. Williams; resides in Keene, N. H.

19 v. *John Levi*, b. Aug. 8, 1841; md. Christiana Petts, who d. Sept. 28, 1871; md. (2d) 1878, Abbie Clifford; resides in Florida.

20 vi. *Cynthia*, resides at Brighton; Ill.

21 vii. *Daniel*, resides at Brighton, Ill.

22 viii. *Laura A.*, resides at Brighton, Ill.

ELISHA COOLIDGE, the first one of the name in this town, was a descendant in the fourth generation of John Coolidge, the emigrant ancestor, who was admitted freeman May 25, 1636. He was an early proprietor and resident of Watertown, a representative and many years a selectman. His will was dated 1681 and proved 1691, but the exact date of his death is not recorded. By wife, Mary, he had eight children, the eldest of whom were probably b. in England. Nathaniel, a son of John and Mary Coolidge, md. Oct. 15, 1657, Mary Bright, b. April 23, 1639, dau. of Henry and Anne (Goldstone) Bright. In the records he was styled a tailor, but his inventory which included "three farms, mills and fishing wear," would indicate that he had other employments. The ninth of thirteen children of Henry and Anne (Goldstone) Coolidge, was Dea. John Coolidge, b. about 1674. He md. Jan. 16, 1699–1700, Margaret Bond, b. in Watertown Oct. 1, 1681, dau. of William and Hepsibah (Hastings) Bond. He d. April 26, 1755. Among their children were Elisha Coolidge of Ashburnham, and Henry Coolidge, a resident of Cambridge and one of the proprietors of Dorchester Canada. Another son was William Coolidge of Waltham, the father of the wife of Col. Francis Lane and the wife of Samuel Cutting.

1 ELISHA COOLIDGE, son of Dea. John and Martha (Bond) Coolidge, was b. in Watertown July 9, 1720; md. Sarah ——. After a brief residence in Cambridge he removed to Dorchester Canada 1752. He was an innholder here in 1752, 1759, 1760, 1761 and probably during other years. His valuable service in forwarding the settlement and his connection with the early mills in this town are outlined in the early chapters of this record. He was frequently chosen to office and the high esteem in which he was held

is reflected in many pages of the records of this town. He was one of the original members of the church, but in 1778 he united with the Baptists. He d. Aug. 29, 1807.

2 I. *Catherine*, b. May 3, 1755; md. 1773, John Gates of Ashburnham, *q. v.*
3 II. *Sarah*, b. May 23, 1757; md. Dea. Jacob Kiblinger, *q. v.*
4 III. *Permelia*, b. Nov. 3, 1758.
5 IV. *Jonathan*, b. Sept. 6, 1760.
6 V. *Judith*, b. Sept. 23, 1762; md. April 14, 1784, Isaiah Stone of Dummerston, Vt.
7 VI. *John*, b. Nov. 7, 1764.
8 VII. *Elizabeth*, b. Nov. 30, 1766.
9 VIII. *Elisha*, b. Nov. 19, 1768; md. Nov. 11, 1804, Mary Cushing, dau. of Rev. John Cushing, *q. v.* He d. leaving one son, and she md. (2d) Rev. Asa Rand, son of Col. Daniel and Susannah (Hemenway) Rand of Rindge. He d. Aug. 24, 1871; she d. June 12, 1871.
10 IX. *Relief*, b Sept. 26, 1770.
11 X. *Lucy*, b. Nov. 8, 1772.
12 XI. *Flavel*, b. Jan. 19, 1775; md. Jan. 30, 1806, Nancy Wildes.

1 HEZEKIAH COREY, son of John and Ruth Corey, was b. in Chelmsford 1736, and was taxed there 1757. Previous to 1763 he removed to New Ipswich and was a prominent man in the affairs of that town several years. In 1771 he was an officer in the militia and ever after he bore the title of lieutenant. He removed to this town during the Revolution. In 1780 he was chosen fence viewer, which is the first mention of his name in the records, and the following year he was a selectman. In subsequent years he was chosen to other positions of trust and evidently he was held in high esteem. He d. Oct. 23, 1818; she d. Oct. 9, 1820. Four children were b. in New Ipswich and two in Ashburnham.

2 I. *Hezekiah*, b. Jan. 7, 1765.+
3 II. *John*, b. March 4, 1769.+
4 III. *Amos*, b. Jan. 4, 1774.+
5 IV. *Stephen*, b. Sept. 27, 1775.+
6 V. *Jonas*, b. 1777.+
7 VI. *Sally*, b. 1779; md. Jan. 24, 1804, John Jefts, son of John Jefts of Mason, N. H.
8 VII. *Rhoda*, bap. 1782; md. May 26, 1803, George W. Joslin, *q. v.*
9 VIII. *Dolly*, bap. 1785; md. James Scollay, *q. v.*

(2) HEZEKIAH COREY md. Jan. 20, 1791, Lucy Townsend, b. Feb. 19, 1769, dau. of Joshua and Mary Townsend, *q. v.* He d. Nov. 16, 1833; she d. Nov. 11, 1867, aged nearly 99 years. Seven children.

10 I. *Lucy*, b. Nov. 20, 1791; md. Jan. 20, 1820, Willard Jefts of Ashby; she d. Oct. 20, 1871.
11 II. *Achsah*, b. March 7, 1793; d. unmd. Oct. 23, 1852.
12 III. *Asahel*, b. March 11, 1794.+
13 IV. *Sarah*, md. 1820, Joel Fenno.
14 V. *Mary*, md. 1817, William Fenno.
15 VI. *Levi*, b. 1807.+
16 VII. *Hezekiah*, b. Jan. 7, 1814; d. unmd. Oct. 30, 1842.

(3) JOHN COREY md. June 7, 1792, Milly Stone, dau. of Joseph Stone, *q. v.* He was a farmer and resided in this town until about 1815, when he removed to Waltham. Seven children were b. in this town.

17 I. *John*, b. Oct. 17, 1792.
18 II. *Stillman*, b. March 22, 1795; md. Martha Brigham of Marlboro; d. 1824, leaving five children, and among them was Mary who md. Luther Clark, *q. v.* The widow of Stillman Corey md. (2d) George Safford of Fitchburg.
19 III. *Milly*, b. Feb. 1, 1797.
20 IV. *Joseph*, b. Aug. 12, 1799.
21 V. *Harris*, b. Feb. 23, 1802.
22 VI. *Harriet* (twin), b. Feb. 23, 1802.
23 VII. *Infant*, b. 1805; d. March 17, 1806.

(4) AMOS COREY md. July 7, 1798, Achsah Townsend, dau. of Joshua, *q. v.* In 1801 he removed to Washington, N. H. He md. (2d) Louisa Jefts. The first wife was the mother of all his children.

24 I. *Linda*, b. Jan. 7, 1799; d. young.
25 II. *Clarissa*, b. Oct. 8, 1800; d. 1802.
26 III. *Amos*, b. Sept. 19, 1802; md. Dec. 8, 1827, Roxanna Wright of Sullivan, N. H. He lived in Washington, N. H., until 1857, when he removed to Antrim, N. H., where he d. April 6, 1872. His widow d. Sept. 7, 1872. Of their four children two d. unmd.

27 1. Achsah, b. 1828; md. Peter Shuttleworth of Southboro.

28 2. George F., b. 1836; md. Clara R. Hill of Antrim and resides in Waltham.

29 IV. *Nathan*, b. 1804; md. Aug. 30, 1825, Louisa Wright, dau. of Jacob Wright, Jr. He resided in Stoddard, Charlestown and Boscawen, N. H., where he d. Sept. 20, 1879. Six children.

30 V. *Jonas R.*, d. at age of nine years.

31 VI. *Mary*, b. Dec. 13, 1809; md. Nov. 4, 1845, Nahum Newton; reside in Southboro.

32 VII. *Achsah*, b. Sept. 2, 1813; md. David Smith; resided in Ohio and Lafayette, Ill., where she d. Jan. 14, 1867.

(5) STEPHEN COREY md. Oct. 24, 1793, Joanna Adams, dau. of John Adams, *q. v.* Her name was generally written Anna. He was a farmer and a tanner and resided in the south part of the town. He was for many years frequently employed in public affairs. He d. Oct. 7, 1823; she d. Nov. 18, 1868, aged 93 years.

33 I. *Polly*, b. Feb. 23, 1794; md. John Willard, *q. v.*

34 II. *Stephen*, b. Nov. 27, 1795.+

35 III. *Nancy*, b. Jan. 3, 1799; md. May 30, 1821, Levi Todd, son of Joshua and Tabitha (Hunt) Todd of Rindge. They resided in Hinsdale, N. H., where she d. Oct. 3, 1872; he d. Nov. 23, 1873.

36 1. George W., b. Nov. 3, 1822; md. Nov. 24, 1846, Henrietta Tuttle.

37 2. Nancy A., b. Jan. 17, 1825; md. James Boyce.

38 3. Walter C., b. Sept. 23, 1826; md. Mary Spaulding.

39 4. Levi Leonard, b. June 28, 1828; d. Oct. 10, 1852.

40 5. Lucy Lucinda (twin), b. June 28, 1828; d. Jan. 22, 1831.

41 6. Mary J., b. Aug. 24, 1835; d. Sept. 22, 1853.

42 IV. *Almira*, b. Feb. 27, 1801; md. Silas Rice, *q. v.*

43 V. *Melinda*, b. Sept. 10, 1803; md. James Hayward of Ashby.

44 VI. *Lucinda*, b. July 29, 1806; md. Jonathan O. Bancroft, *q. v.*

45 VII. *Walter*, b. March 5, 1809.+

46 VIII. *Betsey*, b. Aug. 20, 1811; drowned in a tan vat Aug. 12, 1815.

47 IX. *David A.*, b. March 19, 1815; he resided in Chicago, Ill., where he d. unmd. Feb. 21, 1886.

(6) JONAS COREY md. 1817, Lucy Stone, dau. of Joseph Stone, *q. v.* He resided in this town, where he d. Feb. 23, 1860. He failed to support his family, and his wife and children removed from this town many years ago, An infant d. Feb. 21, 1823. Among their children were Sarah F. and George Lewis.

(12) ASAHEL COREY, son of Hezekiah Corey, Jr., md. 1816. Mary Conant, dau. of Josiah and Annis (Derby) Conant of Gardner. He was a merchant and an influential citizen of this town. Representative 1833, '34, '35, '36.

48 I. *Jonas*, b. June 29, 1816. For many years he was engaged in the manufacture of chairs and lumber. He md. May 25, 1845, Susan A. Cushing, dau. of Laban Cushing, *q. v.* They removed 1852 to Fitchburg, where she d. Jan. 12, 1857. He md. (2d) Feb. 22, 1870, Mrs. Adaline A. George. He d. Oct. 28, 1878.

49 1. Waldo C., b. March 31, 1847; md. March 14, 1883, Clara B. Goodspeed, dau. of Geo. N. Goodspeed. They reside in Winchendon.

50 2. Frank Eugene, b. March 31, 1850; resides unmd. in St. Louis, Mo.

51 II. *Charles A.*, b. May 23, 1826; md. July 13, 1848, Elizabeth L. Barry, dau. of Thomas and Lucinda Barry of Athol. He resided in Fitchburg where he d. Sept. 28, 1870. Two children.

52 1. Ella Lizzie, b. Dec. 22, 1850; d. unmd. March 28, 1878.

53 2. Fred. A., b. Oct. 13, 1852; md. Aug. 14, 1883, Katie E. Clifford, dau. of John and Ellen Clifford of Fitchburg; resides in Boston.

(15) LEVI COREY, a brother of Asahel, md. June 10, 1830, Sarah L. Gross, dau. of Peaks Gross, *q. v.* He was a merchant. He d. May 3, 1854. She md. (2d) Oct. 5, 1858, Charles Buttrick, *q. v.*

54 I. *George Bronson*, b. Aug. 10, 1831; md. Feb. 28, 1861. He resides in Desota, Ill.

55 II. *Adalaide L.*, b. Oct. 20, 1835; md. March 20, 1868, Samuel C. Lesure. They resided in Chelsea, where she d. March 15, 1885. He formerly resided several years in Ashburnham; was in the service in the war of the Rebellion and subsequently an officer in the Rice Guards.

56 III. *Eveline A.*, b. Oct. 19, 1851; d. unmd. Aug. 19, 1875. An estimable young lady.

(34) STEPHEN COREY, son of Stephen, md. Sept. 19, 1820, Mary White, dau. of Elisha White, *q. v.* He resided upon the farm now owned by his youngest son. He was a farmer and for a number of years he continued the business of tanning established by his father. He d. Dec. 22, 1867; she d. Nov. 6, 1866.

57 I. *Stephen W.*, b. May 31, 1822; md. Julia Draper. Resides in New Portland, Me.

58 II. *Mary H.*, b. April 9, 1825; d. Aug. 4, 1846.

59 III. *Augusta H.*, b. May 28, 1827; md. John M. Frost of Ashby.

60 IV. *Sarah W.*, b. Aug. 16, 1829; md. John G. Coult of Manchester, N. H.

61 V. *Walter A.*, b. June 29, 1831; d. unmd. Jan. 25, 1862.

62 VI. *Susan M.*, b. Dec. 10, 1833; md. Frank B. Stoddard, son of Charles and Lovisa (Brigham) Stoddard of Chesterfield, N. H. She d. in this town June 25, 1863.

63 VII. *David A.*, b. June 20, 1836. Was a merchant in Fitchburg from 1858 to 1883. He is now treasurer of the Snow Cattle Co., at their eastern office in Fitchburg. The company owns about 300,000 acres of grazing land in Wyoming. He md. Jan. 31, 1860, Josephine Goddard, dau. of Joel Goddard of Templeton. She d. March 9, 1865. He md. (2d) Oct. 9, 1866, Nellie Heywood, dau. of Walter and Nancy (Foster) Heywood.

64 VIII. *Ellen M.*, b. Dec. 26, 1838; md. George Coult. They reside in Worcester.

65 IX. *Abbie M.*, b. Oct. 25, 1841.

66 X. *George F.*, b. Jan. 2, 1844; md. June 24, 1869, Ellen R. Hinds, dau. of Francis Hinds, *q. v.* He resides upon the homestead in Ashburnham.

(45) WALTER COREY removed to Portland, Me., in 1836 and has been actively and successfully engaged in the manu-

facture and sale of furniture. A few years ago he retired from a business in which he had enjoyed an unblemished reputation. He md. July 7, 1846, Hester Ann Cole of Lewiston, Me. They have two children.

67 I. *Walter L.*, b. Nov. 9, 1848.
68 II. *Mabel A.*, b. Jan. 5, 1858.

1 JOHN F. CORNU, son of Peter Cornu, b. in Switzerland 1824, taught school several years in his native land and emigrated to Canada, where he md. 1856, Justina Tindo who d. 1863. He came to Ashburnham 1876 and resides a farmer on the Charles Stimson place on the North Turnpike.

2 I. *Ida*, b. 1860; md. Zachariah Lambert of Fall River.
3 II. *Noah*, b. 1861; unmd., resides in Kansas.
4 III. *Philemon*, b. 1863; unmd., resides with his father.

1 MICHAEL COUGHLIN, b. in County of Cork, Ireland, Oct. 12, 1810, md. in Ireland May 1, 1841, Mary Barnett. He has resided in this town about thirty years, occupying as a farmer the Foster place, often called the John Woods farm.

2 I. *Patrick*, b. March 17, 1841; a mechanic in this town; unmd.
3 II. *Bridget*, b. Aug. 5, 1843; md. 1859, John O'Brien; resides in Fitchburg.
4 III. *Michael, Jr.*, b. 1849; md. Mary Mead. He is a wheelwright.

1 TIMOTHY CREHORE was the first of this family who became a permanent resident of Ashburnham. He was a son of Jedediah and Chloe Crehòre and was b. in Milton Aug. 21, 1754. He is not mentioned in the Milton records and it is probable he came here about the time he arrived of age. He was here in 1785 when he was chosen highway surveyor. He settled in the southwest part of the town, where he d., and where his son Col. Timothy subsequently resided. This farm was a part of the land which had been in possession of the Crehore family since the early charter of the township. The name of his first wife and the mother of his children was Mary, but no record of the marriage has been found. She d. Oct. 9, 1805, aged 45 years. He md. (2d) 1812, Mrs. Hannah Mason of Walpole, N. H. He d. Nov. 1, 1843.

2 i. *Jedediah*, b. Oct. 15, 1781.
3 ii. *Timothy*, b. March 12, 1784.+
4 iii. *Mary*, b. Nov. 4, 1786; md. Jan. 3, 1815, Asa Carpenter of Walpole, N. H.
5 iv. *John*, b. Aug. 14. 1789; d. June 29, 1824.
6 v. *Laban Sprague*, b. Nov. 28, 1794.
7 vi. *Infant*, b. and d. 1797.
8 vii. *Infant*, d. 1805.

(3) Col. Timothy Crehore resided on the home place and subsequently in the Central Village. In 1852 he removed to Fitchburg. He was an active citizen and was prominent in military affairs. *Vide* Chap. XVIII. He md. Sept. 20, 1807, Sally W. Fairbanks, who d. Jan. 8, 1864; he d. Jan. 5, 1866.

9 i. *Warren A.*, b. May 2, 1808; md. March 17, 1831, Sarah E. Bemis of Winchendon; resided in this town and in Fitchburg.
10 ii. *Sally E.*, b. Feb., 1810; md. Europe H. Fairbanks, *q. v.*
11 iii. *Horace C.*, b. Nov. 25, 1811; md. June 12, 1844, Mary Ann Bowker. He was a merchant in Ashburnham and subsequently in Fitchburg. He d. in New York Jan. 26, 1881.
12 iv. *Lewis H.*, b. Jan. 25, 1817; d. near Island of Ascension and was buried at sea April 17, 1840.
13 v. *Austin S.*, b. Feb. 6, 1824; d. from a fall from a bridge at Dutch Flat, Col., March 19, 1870.
14 vi. *Mary A.*, b. June 11, 1826; md. April 6, 1847, Howard Marble, son of Samuel Marble, *q. v.*
15 vii. *Infant*, d. Sept. 22, 1830.

CROSBY.

Fitch and Frederick Crosby, who are named in the following register, were valued citizens of Ashburnham. They were distant relatives and of the sixth generation of their family in America.

Simon Crosby aged 26, wife Anne aged 25 and son Thomas aged 8 weeks embarked for New England April 18, 1634. He settled in Cambridge and was a selectman 1636 and 1638. He d. 1639 and his widow md. (2d) Rev. William Tompson of Braintree. Simon Crosby, second son of Simon the emigrant, was b. in Cambridge Aug., 1637. He became a large landholder and was a leading citizen. He was the first innholder in that town and a representative several years. He md. July 15, 1659, Rachel Brackett, dau. of Richard Brackett of Braintree. He d. Jan. 22, 1725-6. Among his nine children were Simon and Josiah and Joseph whose descendants have resided in this town. Josiah, son of Simon and Rachel (Brackett) Crosby, was b. Nov. 11, 1677; md. Nov. 2, 1703, Mary Manning, dau. of Samuel and Elizabeth (Stearns) Manning. He resided in Billerica, where he d. about 1745. His son Josiah, b. Aug. 5, 1704, md. Feb. 3, 1729-30, Elizabeth

French, dau. of William and Sarah (Danforth) French. She d. Nov. 27, 1739, and he d. previous to 1743. Hazen's History of Billerica credits a tradition that he was killed by the Indians. Josiah Crosby, eldest son of Josiah and Elizabeth (French) Crosby, was b. Nov. 24, 1730. He was a soldier in the French and Indian War. Subsequently he settled in Monson, now Milford, N. H. He was a Captain in Col. James Reed's regiment which served in the siege of Boston and participated in the battle of Bunker Hill. In this engagement his company contained 44 men. He was a millwright, a man of great energy and enterprise and a prominent and influential citizen. He md. Aug. 23, 1750, Rachel Fitch, dau. of Joseph and Rachel Fitch of Billerica. She was a niece of John Fitch in whose honor the city of Fitchburg was named, and who while residing near the borders of this town was taken captive by the Indians July 5, 1748. He d. Oct. 5, 1793. Fitch Crosby, the youngest of ten children, removed to this town, and is number 1 in the following register. Among the numerous descendants of Capt. Josiah and Rachel (Fitch) Crosby are many eminent men whose lives have adorned the professions and the halls of learning.

Another son of Simon and Rachel (Brackett) Crosby was Simon Crosby, b. in Billerica 1663. His wife Hannah d. May 6, 1702, and he md. (2d) March 16, 1702–3, Abigail (Whittaker) Parker, widow of John Parker and dau. of John Whittaker. Among his thirteen children was Samuel Crosby, by first wife, b. Oct. 4, 1698. Previous to 1723 he removed from Billerica to Shrewsbury and was one of the original members of the church in Shrewsbury of which Rev. Job Cushing, father of Rev. John Cushing, was the first minister. He md. Dec. 9, 1729, Dorothy Brown, dau. of George and Sarah (Kidder) Brown of Billerica. He d. in Shrewsbury Jan. 23, 1748–9. His son, Elisha Crosby, was b. Jan. 10, 1737–8. He md. Tabitha Harrington of Worcester. He resided a few years in Petersham and subsequently returned to Shrewsbury, where he and his wife d. of small-pox 1792. Their eldest son was Frederick Crosby of Ashburnham. He is number 14 in the register.

Mary Crosby, wife of Isaac Stearns, was a descendant of Joseph Crosby, son of Simon and Rachel (Brackett) Crosby, who was b. in BillericaJuly 5, 1669. He md. May 6, 1691, Sarah French, dau. of William and Mary (Lathrop)' French. Their son, William Crosby, b. Feb. 13, 1697–8, md. Hannah Ross, dau. of Thomas Ross. He d. Jan. 1, 1754. His son, Jessaniah, b. Oct. 7, 1728, md. Dec. 19, 1751, Mary Hosley, dau. of Thomas and Martha (Richardson) Hosley. He resided in Billerica, where his dau. Mary, the wife of Isaac Stearns, was b. May 16, 1754, and youngest dau. Sarah, wife of Phinehas Randall, was b. Dec. 25, 1763.

1 FITCH CROSBY, son of Capt. Josiah and Sarah (Fitch) Crosby, was b. in Milford, N. H., July 14, 1773. He md. March 1, 1798, Rebecca Davis, dau. of Josiah and Abigail (Hubbard) Davis of New Ipswich, and removed to Ashburnham in the year 1801. He was a clothier and owned and occupied the mill in the Central Village in which Horace Black subsequently manufactured furniture and which was destroyed by the freshet in 1850. A man of even temper and unblemished character, he was held in high esteem by all who knew him. He d. March 17, 1852. His wife, a most estimable woman, survived him and d. in this town May 20, 1857.

2 I. *Charles Fitch*, b. July 8, 1799.+

3 II. *Jonas Hale*, b. Jan. 7, 1804; d. Oct. 10, 1809.

4 III. *Josiah Davis*, b. March 1, 1807.+
5 IV. *Hale Estabrook*, b. Oct. 15, 1816.+

(2) CHARLES FITCH CROSBY md. May 3, 1821, Susan Wilker, dau. of George Wilker, *q. v.* He was a wool-carder in Ashby, where he d. 1880. She d. May 25, 1879.

6 I. *George F.*, d. young.
7 II. *Sarah Rebecca*, d. unmd. 1875.
8 III. *George Fitch*, md. Catherine Willard, dau. of George A. Willard, *q. v.* They live in Fitchburg.
9 IV. *Mary Ann*, md. William H. Jewett; reside in Fitchburg.
10 V. *Susan Amanda*, md. —— Fitzgibbon; she resides, a widow, in Charlestown.

(4) REV. JOSIAH DAVIS CROSBY, a Congregational clergyman, now retired from active labor, is residing in Ashburnham. An outline of his education and ministerial labor is given in Chap. VIII. For many years he has been a student of the annals of this town and has prepared many historical papers concerning men and prominent events in the town's history. Mr. Crosby has ever been a consistent and earnest supporter of the reforms of his time. He md. April 16, 1839, Elvira Willard, dau. of Ephraim and Lucy Willard of Athol. She d. April 1, 1882. No children.

(5) HALE ESTABROOK CROSBY attended the public schools of this town and Appleton Academy, New Ipswich. In boyhood he became a printer and was employed as a compositor in Lowell and Andover and in Concord, N. H. While at work at Concord he was also a student at the Concord Literary Institute. In this institution Gen. Harrison C. Hobart and Vice-President Wilson were his classmates. He was successively a printer in Concord and a merchant in Ashby, in Fisherville, N. H., and in New Buffalo, Mich., until 1845. Since the last date he has been a farmer and resides at Three Oaks, Mich. He has been a member of the Legislature, and has held many local offices. He md. Nov. 3, 1838, Mary F. Chamberlain, dau. of Moses and Mary (Foster) Chamberlain of Concord, N. H. Of their six children three d. in infancy.

11 I. *Josiah Birney*, b. June 2, 1842; md. Sept. 2, 1869, Cornelia F., dau. of Samuel and Susan A. Hammond. A farmer at New Buffalo.

12 II. *Henry Chamberlain*, b. Nov. 22, 1852; md. June 18, 1884, Stella V. Greenamyer, dau. of Solomon Greenamyer. A farmer at New Buffalo.

13 III. *John Abbott*, b. Dec. 10, 1854; md. June 25, 1884, Adelaide R. Upton, dau. of John B. Upton. He is a physician in Minneapolis, Minn. A graduate of Harvard Medical School.

14 FREDERICK CROSBY, son of Elisha and Tabitha (Harrington) Crosby, was b, in Shrewsbury April 8, 1764. He md. March 31, 1785, Martha Maynard, dau. of Capt. John and Martha (Brigham) Maynard of Shrewsbury. In 1790 he removed to Winchendon and in 1796 to Ashburnham, where he d. March 21, 1840. His wife survived him and d. April 19, 1851. When Mr. Crosby came to this town he bought 250 acres of land which has since been owned by George L. Beals and Burrage Brothers. The old homestead is still known as the Frederick Crosby Place. The aged recall Mr. Crosby with sentiments of respect and represent him as a man above reproach. In this family there were fourteen children.

15 I. *Henry*, b. in Shrewsbury July 18, 1785. *Vide* Chap. XX.

16 II. *John*, b. Oct. 21, 1787; md. Betsey Brooks, dau. of Levi and Betsey (Flint) Brooks of Winchendon. Removed to Winchendon and from thence to Gardner.

17 III. *Elisha*, b. in Winchendon April 18, 1790; md. Oct. 22, 1841, Elizabeth Barnes, b. Dec. 17, 1788, dau. of William and Elizabeth (Brigham) Barnes of Marlboro'. She d. Aug. 29, 1845. He md. (2d) June 13, 1849, Dolly Wright, b. Oct. 6, 1798, dau. of Elijah and Lavina (Lawrence) Wright of Ashby. At this date he removed to Ashby, where he d. April 2, 1878. He never did any harm, and was constitutionally too indolent to do much good. "Persevere Mr. Crosby" was the frequent admonition of his wife who survived him and d. March 31, 1884.

18 IV. *Betsey*, b. March 2, 1792; md. July 29, 1816, William Rugg of Leominster.

19 V. *Walter*, b. Sept. 29, 1794; md. Sally Wheeler; d. in Marlboro 1839.

20 VI. *Patty*, b. in Ashburnham Aug. 8, 1796.

21 VII. *Harriet*, b. June 21, 1799; md. —— Lovewell; d. in Marlboro.

22 VIII. *Hepsibeth*, b. April 13, 1801; d. Dec. 28, 1819.

23 IX. *Mary*, b. March 28, 1803; md. Joseph Maynard.
24 X. *Josiah*, b. April 6, 1805; md. March 21, 1834, Lydia Everbeck of Boston; she d. June 8, 1841; md. (2d) Dec. 7, 1842, Alice Ross. He resides in Arlington.
25 XI. *Almira*, b. May 1, 1807; md. Asa Merriam, *q. v.*
26 XII. *Caroline*, b. Dec. 3, 1809; md. John Barrell, *q. v.*
27 XIII. *Lucy*, b. Oct. 3, 1812; md. March 29, 1836, Freeman Howe, son of Jonah and Catherine (Howe) Howe of Marlboro', where she d. Aug., 1885.

1 ABRAHAM CUMMINGS removed from Attleborough to this town about 1787. He was a farmer and a blameless citizen. He md. previous to his arrival in this town Mary Bourne. Two children, not named below, d. in childhood.

2 I. *Abraham*, b. July 30, 1787; d. June 17, 1809.
3 II. *Calvin*, b. Oct. 10, 1792. He was a Methodist minister and removed from this town about 1825. He md. Jan. 7, 1817, Matilda Wilcott. *Vide* Chap. XX.
4 III. *Maria*, b. Oct. 5, 1794; md. Nov. 10, 1828, Samuel Cook. Resided in Franklin.
5 IV. *Ariel*, b. Dec. 30, 1796.+
6 V. *Adin*, b. Dec. 4, 1798. He resided in Rindge until 1855 when he removed to Jaffrey, N. H., where he d. He md. 1820, Sarah (Wetherbee) Breed, widow of Enoch Breed of Rindge. She d. June 29, 1840; md. (2d) 1841, Cynthia Brigham of Waltham.
7 1. Adin Milton, b. July 20, 1821; md. Dec. 5, 1843, Elizabeth M. Peaslee. Resides in Sutton, N. H.
8 2. John Calvin, b. Feb. 27, 1843; d. 1864.
9 VI. *Ivers*, b. June 22, 1800; removed to New York.
10 VII. *Andrew*, b. May 11, 1802; md. Almira Fuller of Northbridge; removed to Wenhall, Vt.
11 VIII. *Sally*, b. Feb. 29, 1806; md. —— Rawson; d. in Wenhall, Vt.

(5) ARIEL CUMMINGS md. Feb. 28, 1822, Malison Currier, dau. of John and Susan (Orcut) Currier of Acworth, N. H., and granddau. of David and Martha (Ladd) Currier of Windham, N. H. He was a respectable citizen and a farmer, occupying the farm now of M. T. Russell in the north part of the town. He d. Aug. 28, 1872; she d. Oct. 7, 1874.

12 i. *Ariel Ivers*, b. June 11, 1823. He was a physician. *Vide* Chap. XX. He md. June 9, 1844, Mary C. Grant of Greenfield, N. H. He d. Sept. 9, 1863. They had one child, Helen, who was murdered at four years of age by an insane man in the presence of her mother.

13 ii. *John Lauren*, b. Aug. 25, 1824.+

14 iii. *Lorinda*, b. May 27, 1826; resides unmd. in Ashburnham.

15 iv. *Viola M.*, b. Aug. 25, 1839; d. Feb. 3, 1845.

(13) John L. Cummings, Esq., md. Jan. 4, 1875, Ellen J. Adams of Nashua, N. H. He has been a Justice of the Peace many years and has frequently served on the board of Selectman, Assessors and Overseers of the Poor. From 1875 to 1879 he was one of the Trustees of Westboro' Reform School. He resides in the Centre Village. No children.

16 Hezekiah Cummings, b. in Peacham, Vt., 1817, md. Sept. 9, 1842, Mariah H. Burr, b. Nov. 14, 1814, dau. of Seymour and Hannah (Roberts) Burr of Grantham, N. H. They resided in Barnet and Lunenburg, Vt., for several years and removed to this town.

17 i. *Hattie Maria*, b. Oct. 7, 1843; md. 1862, William H. Wright; reside in Belmont, N. H.

18 ii. *Albert Edwin*, b. Oct. 15, 1847; md. 1867, Emma J. Willoughby; reside in Lawrence.

19 iii. *Lucia Ella*, b. June 5, 1851; md. 1880, Charles S. Hart; reside in Boston.

20 iv. *George Seymour*, b. Dec. 12, 1854; is a physician in Manchester, N. H.

21 v. *Milo Burr*, b. Dec. 28, 1856; md. 1881, Hannah L. Moore. He is a teacher of music; resides in Leominster.

CUSHING.

The emigrant ancestor of all the families bearing the name of Cushing who have resided in Ashburnham was Matthew Cushing, a son of Peter and Susan (Hawes) Cushing. He was b. in Hingham, England, 1589. He md. Aug. 5, 1613, Nazereth Pitcher, dau. of Henry Pitcher. Matthew and Nazereth Cushing with five children, aged from eleven to nineteen years, embarked in the ship Diligent, John Martin, master, and arrived in Boston Aug. 10, 1638. There were one hundred and thirty-three passengers on the Diligent, many of whom immediately commenced the settlement of Hingham in New England. Matthew Cushing was a deacon of the church of which Rev. Peter Hobart was the pastor. He d. Sept. 30, 1660. Daniel Cushing, eldest son of Matthew and Nazereth Cushing, was b. 1619, and, consequently, was nineteen years of age when he emigrated to New England. He md. June 19,

1645, Lydia Gilman, dau. of Edward Gilman; she d. March 12, 1689. He md. (2d) March 23, 1691, Elizabeth (Jacob) Thaxter, widow of John Thaxter and dau. of Nicholas Jacob; she d. Nov. 24, 1725. He d. Dec. 3, 1699. He was admitted freeman 1671, was a magistrate and for many years the town clerk of Hingham. He was representative 1681, 1682 and 1695. Of his six children the youngest was Matthew, b. July 15, 1660. He md. Dec. 31, 1684, Jael Jacob, dau. of Col. John Jacob of Hingham. She d. Dec. 23, 1708, and he d. June 23, 1715. The fifth of their ten children was Rev. Job Cushing who was b. July 19, 1694. He graduated at Harvard University 1714 and was ordained the first minister in Shrewsbury Dec. 4, 1723. He md. March 16, 1727, Mary Prentice, dau. of Rev. John and Mary Prentice of Lancaster, and continued in the ministry at Shrewsbury until his death Aug. 6, 1760. His widow d. May 27, 1798. The seventh of their eight children was Rev. John Cushing, D. D., of Ashburnham.

Capt. David Cushing, who is number 17 in the following register, was a descendant of Theophilus Cushing, another son of Daniel and Lydia (Gilman) Cushing who was b. June 17, 1657; md. Dec. 7, 1689, Mary Thaxter, dau. of John Thaxter and d. Jan. 7, 1717. She d. 1737. Of their nine children the fifth was Capt. Abel Cushing, b. Oct. 24, 1696. He md. Nov. 24, 1720, Mary Jacob and d. May 20, 1750. His third son was Col. David, b. Sept. 7, 1727; md. April 9, 1752, Ruth Lincoln who d. July 6, 1761. He md. (2d) Mabel —— who d. Aug. 14, 1798. He d. Feb. 15, 1800. Capt. David of Ashburnham was a son of the first wife and George Russell Cushing, Esq., number 63 in the following register, was a son of the second wife.

The third lineage of the Cushing family in this town are descendants of John Cushing, who was the youngest son of Matthew Cushing the emigrant ancestor. He was b. in Hingham, England, 1627; md. Jan. 20, 1658, Sarah Hawke, dau. of Matthew Hawke. In 1662 he removed to Scituate. He was a prominent citizen and frequently employed in public affairs. He was selectman and a member of the General Court many years. He d. March 31, 1708; his wife d. 1678. Their fourth child was Jeremiah Cushing, b. July 13, 1666. He md. April 12, 1693, Judith Parmenter and resided in Scituate, where he d. May 30, 1710. Ebenezer Cushing, third son of Jeremiah and Judith (Parmenter) Cushing, was b. May 25, 1704; md. Oct. 19, 1732, Elizabeth Daniels. He removed from Scituate to Boston, where he d. 1792. Their fourth child was Benjamin Cushing, b. July 16, 1739; md. Oct. 13, 1761, Susannah Salter; md. (2d) July 26, 1770, Mary Colesworthy. The seventh child of Benjamin and Mary (Colesworthy) Cushing was Stephen Cushing who is number 71 in the register.

It will be observed that Rev. John Cushing was of the fifth generation of this lineage, that Capt. David and George Russell Cushing, Esq., and Stephen Cushing, Esq., were of the sixth generation.

1 Rev. John Cushing, D. D., youngest son of Rev. Job and Mary (Prentice) Cushing, was b. in Shrewsbury Aug. 22, 1744. Graduated at Harvard University 1764, ordained at Ashburnham Nov. 2, 1768, and d. in the fifty-fifth year of his ministry April 27, 1823. For some account of an able and faithful minister *vide* Chap. VIII. He md. Sept. 28, 1769, Sarah Parkman, dau. of Rev. Ebenezer and Hannah (Breck) Parkman of Westboro' and granddaughter of Rev. Robert Breck of Marlboro'. She was a woman of dignified manner, of superior mental ability and most estimable character. She d. March 12, 1825, aged 82 years. They had eight children.

2 I. *John*, b. Aug. 17, 1771; md. April 5, 1795, Julia Keith of Bridgewater. He was a merchant in Boston, where he d. May 17, 1806.

3 1. Julia Ann, b. 1796; md. 1817, Benjamin F. Farnsworth. She d., leaving one son, 1819.

4 2. Mary K., b. 1798; md. Moses Sawyer; d. 1828. She left two children.

5 II. *George Augustus*, b. June 24, 1773; md. Hannah B. Keith, a sister of the wife of his brother John. He d. Aug. 8, 1810.

6 1. George A., b. 1802; d. March 28, 1823.

7 III. *Henry*, b. Nov. 4, 1774; d. unmd. April 17, 1839.

8 IV. *Sarah*, b. Feb. 23, 1777; md. Nov. 11, 1802, Dea. Heman Lincoln, son of Heman and Elizabeth Lincoln of Hingham. In 1801 the parents of Dea. Lincoln removed from Hingham to the north part of Westminster and became members of the church in this town. Dea. Lincoln resided here a few years and removed to Boston. He was one of the trustees of the will of Thomas Parkman Cushing.

9 V. *Doddridge*, b. Oct. 27, 1779; d. unmd. in Ashburnham Jan. 12, 1866.

10 VI. *Mary*, b. April 27, 1782; md. Elisha Coolidge, *q. v.*

11 VII. *Cyrus*, b. Feb. 17, 1784; d. Feb. 6, 1795.

12 VIII. *Thomas Parkman*, b. Oct. 7, 1787.+

(12) THOMAS PARKMAN CUSHING. *Vide* Chap. XX. He md. Nov. 4, 1824, Sarah Barker Sigourney; md. (2d) 1831, Mrs. Martha Ann Sigourney; md. (3d) May 18, 1843, Sarah Thompson Wayland. He d. Nov. 23, 1854.

13 I. *Sarah E. S.*, b. Feb. 26, 1832; md. May 17, 1854, Edward Tuckerman, LL. D. Since 1858 he was Professor of Botany, Amherst College, until his death March 15, 1886.

14 II. *Anna Louisa*, b. April 26, 1834.

15 III. *John Cargill*, b. Feb. 17, 1836; d. Aug. 21, 1836.

16 IV. *Martha*, b. Nov. 14, 1837; md. July 18, 1867, William C. Esty, son of Rev. Isaac and Anna G. (Cole) Esty. He is professor of Mathematics and Astronomy, Amherst College.

17 CAPT. DAVID CUSHING, son of Col. David and Ruth (Lincoln) Cushing, was b. in Hingham July 2, 1754.

He md. Oct. 17, 1779, Hannah Cushing, dau. of Joseph and Sarah (Leavitt) Cushing, granddau. of Solomon and Sarah (Loring) Cushing, and great-granddau. of Matthew and Jael Cushing. She was a sister of the second wife of Col. Francis Lane and was b. in Hingham April 26, 1760. Capt. Cushing removed to this town 1798. He was an innholder, a tanner and a farmer. He resided where Nahum Wood now lives. Tradition and the records are united in the assertion that Capt. Cushing was a man of good ability and a respected citizen. He d. May 3, 1827. She d. March 13, 1823. Seven children were b. in Hingham and one, the youngest, in Ashburnham.

18 I. *Joseph*, b. Jan. 23, 1781.+

19 II. *Hannah*, b. June 9, 1783; md. Silas Whitney, *q. v.*

20 III. *David*, b. Nov. 7, 1785. He md. April 17, 1807, Polly Adams, dau. of John Adams, *q. v.*, and resided in Walpole, N. H. Three children. She d. Aug. 15, 1854. He d. 1827.

21 IV. *Susannah*, b. Nov. 7, 1785; md. Oct. 8, 1811, Joseph Jewett, Jr., *q. v.*

22 V. *Laban*, b. April 29, 1791.+

23 VI. *Deborah*, b. Sept. 6, 1793; md. Josiah Fletcher, Jr., *q. v.*

24 VII. *Moses*, b. March 20, 1796. Resided in Catharine, Schuyler Co., New York; the town is now called Havana. He md. Dec. 25, 1818, Gertrude, dau. of Peter Polley, *q. v.* He d. Dec. 29, 1883. She d. Feb. 26, 1867. They had five children.

25 1. Susan, b. Sept. 20, 1820; d. March 20, 1841.

26 2. Betsey, b. Aug. 31, 1823; md. Joseph Cushing, *q. v.*

27 3. Herman, b. Feb. 9, 1826; resides at Havana.

28 4. Mary, b. April 12, 1830; d. June 19, 1859.

29 5. Joseph, b. Oct. 31, 1838; d. June 30, 1858.

30 VIII. *Sarah Leavitt*, b. Dec. 7, 1798; md. Ephraim May Cunningham, a lawyer, who removed from this town to Reading a few years after his marriage. She d. about 1830.

(18) JOSEPH CUSHING, son of Capt. David Cushing, removed from Ashburnham to Amherst, N. H., where he established the *Farmers' Cabinet*. The first number was issued Nov. 11, 1802, and the paper has been continued to the present

time. With Mr. Cushing and in this office Hon. Isaac Hill learned the art of printing. In 1809 Mr. Cushing removed to Baltimore, Md., where for many years he was a well-known publisher and bookseller. He was a member of the city government and of the State Legislature and for twenty-five years he was president of "The Savings Bank of Baltimore." He md. 1805, Rebecca Edmands and d. 1852.

31 I. *Joseph*, b. 1806; md. 1832, Ann Mackenzie. Four children.

32 II. *John*, b. Aug. 29, 1808; md. Frances Cromwell, who d. March 13, 1865. Eight children.

33 III. *David*, b. 1811; md. 1834, Catharine Jane McClennan. He d. Aug. 26, 1875. Eight children.

34 IV. *Rebecca*, md. Hon. J. Wiley Edmands, son of Thomas and grandson of Thomas and Elizabeth (Wiley) Edmands. They reside in Newton.

35 V. *Mary*, md. Erastus Edgarton.

36 VI. *Sarah*, md. William H. Calwell of Baltimore.

37 VII. *Elizabeth*, md. W. F. Sloan of Baltimore.

(22) LABAN CUSHING, son of Capt. David, was in the war of 1812. In 1817 he removed to Brooklyn, Penn., and returned to Ashburnham in 1830. He md. April 23, 1811, Nancy Whitney, dau. of Silas Whitney, *q. v.* He d. in this town Oct. 17, 1847; she d. in Fitchburg Jan. 27, 1871. They had twelve children.

38 I. *Nancy Whitney*, b. June 20, 1813; md. John Munroe, *q. v.*.

39 II. *Sarah*, b. May 18, 1815; md. Samuel Ellis, *q. v.*

40 III. *Joseph*, b. Oct. 6, 1817.+

41 IV. *Laban*, b. March 22, 1820. Resides in Fitchburg; md. May 31, 1847, Adaline Keyes, dau. of Silas and Julia (Brooks) Keyes of Princeton. Three children.

42 1. Addie Auretta, b. Dec. 5, 1848; md. July 22, 1874, Herbert N. Rugg, son of Capt. William S. and Clarissa (Sawtelle) Rugg of Rindge. He is a wholesale and retail confectioner in Fitchburg.

43 2. Eva Josephine, b. Oct. 1, 1852; md. May 24, 1881, Granville Nutting of Waltham.

44 3. Emma Julia, b. Sept. 10, 1855; md. Jan. 27, 1881, Robert M. Jones, son of Henry E. and Lydia H. Jones.

He md. Oct. 17, 1779, Hani
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and Sarah (Loring) Cushi
Matthew and Jael Cushin
second wife of Col. Francis
April 26, 1760. Capt. (
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Joseph Cushing



Joseph Cushing

71 STEPHEN CUSHING, son of Benjamin and Mary (Colesworthy) Cushing, was b. in Boston June 21, 1784. He md. May 13, 1812, Eliza Goodale, b. in Boston Dec. 11, 1790. For several years he was a mast-maker and was engaged in this business in company with an older brother. In 1818 the brother retired and the business was successfully continued by Mr. Cushing until 1830 when he removed to this town. He was upright and conscientious in all his business and social relations and as a citizen the influence of his exalted character was firm and salutary. He was distinguished for integrity, and through a long and useful life the purity of his motives and an unfailing kindness to his fellow-men were conspicuous. His name is frequently mentioned in the annals of Ashburnham. In 1838 he represented the town in the Legislature. At this time the first petition to the Legislature for a restrictive temperance law originated in this town and to Mr. Cushing fell the honor of presenting it in the House of Representatives. The names of all who voted for the measure, headed by Mr. Cushing, was posted in one of the public inns of Boston as a mark of disapproval of prohibitory legislation. From that time to the present, neither the courage of men like Mr. Cushing nor the spirit of the hotels have suffered any abatement. He d. July 22, 1872. His wife d. Sept. 12, 1854.

72 I. *Stephen*, b. March 15, 1813. *Vide* Chap. XX. Rev. Stephen Cushing md. April 13, 1834, Levina Glazier Whitney of Westminster. Two children.

73 1. Joseph Whitney, b. Jan. 26, 1837; a physician in Boston.

74 2. Stephen, b. May 29, 1841; a physician in Boston.

75 II. *Eliza*, b. April 18, 1815; md. May 9, 1832, John Whitney of Westminster.

76 III. *Benjamin*, b. Feb. 19, 1817; md. May 30, 1838, Belinda Whitney of Westminster. She d. Jan. 5, 1841. He md. (2d) May 18, 1841, Lois S. Holbrook, dau. of Jesse Holbrook, *q. v.* He resides, a farmer, on the old homestead on the east side of the common.

77 1. Sarah Page, b. Aug. 24, 1840; resides unmd. in Ashburnham.

78 2. Edwin James, b. March 20, 1842; md. Laura E. Bean; resides in Gardner.

79 3. Benjamin, b. Feb. 23, 1844.

80 4. Linda Whitney, b. Feb. 17, 1846; md. 1870, John J. Greenough of Deerfield.
81 5. Joseph G., b. Dec. 26, 1847.
82 6. Eliza, b. July 18, 1849.
83 7. Anna Elizabeth, b. May 15, 1851; md. Nov. 2, 1883, F. Herbert Andrews of West Deerfield.
84 8. Henry E., b. Nov. 30, 1853; a physician in Champion, Ill. *Vide* Chap. XX.
85 9. Frederic, b. Feb. 23, 1857.
86 10. Mary Ellen, b. July 28, 1859.
87 11. Alfred Holbrook, b. Oct. 10, 1861; md. Hattie M. Reed, dau. of George and Laura (Kelton) Reed.

88 IV. *Sarah Page*, b. April 22, 1819; md. June 19, 1851, Joseph B. Jewett. She d. Aug. 21, 1874, and he md. her youngest sister.
89 V. *John Fletcher*, b. Sept. 15, 1823; md. May 18, 1853, Lucy Ann Whittemore. He is a chair-maker; resides in Ashburnham.
90 VI. *Ann Bowker*, b. April 17, 1826; md. Nov. 17, 1875, Joseph B. Jewett of Ashby.

CUTLER.

JAMES CUTLER, the emigrant ancestor of one branch of the Cutler families of this country, was b. in England 1606, and probably was md. to his wife Anna before he left England. He was in Watertown in 1635, where he was admitted an inhabitant and a lot of land was assigned him. About 1650 he sold his lands in Watertown and removed to Cambridge Farms, and at a point which is now in Bedford. His wife Anna d. Sept. 30, 1644; he md. (2d) March 9, 1645, Mary King, widow of Thomas King of Watertown. She d. Dec. 7, 1654, and he md. (3d) Phebe Page, dau. of John and Phebe Page. He d. May 17, 1794, aged 88 years. Thomas Cutler, the sixth of the twelve children of the emigrant ancestor and the eldest son of the second wife, was b. about 1648. He was styled a lieutenant and was a constable, assessor and selectman of Lexington. He d. July 13, 1722. By wife Abigail he had seven children, and among them was Jonathan Cutler, b. 1688. He md. Aug. 17, 1710, Abigail Bigelow, b. May 7, 1687, dau. of Samuel and Mary (Flagg) Bigelow of Watertown. He removed to Connecticut, residing in Colchester and Killingly, now Thompson. He md. (2d) Abigail Dewing of Bellingham and it appears that he was a resident of Bellingham a short time, about 1727.

Capt. William Cutler, son of Jonathan, b. March 24, 1726, removed from Killingly to Plainfield, Conn., where he md. Nov. 7, 1750, Susannah Shepherd who d. 1798. He was again md. and d. in 1802. He was a man of enterprise and he acquired a good estate. Jonathan Cutler, son of Capt. William, b. about 1755, md. Keziah Hutchins and settled in Plainfield. He is described as a man of excellent character, of pleasing manners and of fine personal appearance. Of their six children Dr. William H. Cutler of this town was the eldest.

1 DR. WILLIAM HUTCHINS CUTLER, son of Jonathan and Keziah (Hutchins) Cutler, was b. in Plainfield, Conn.,

July 27, 1787. For many years he was a resident physician and esteemed citizen of this town. *Vide* Chap. XX. He md. June 16, 1814, Abigail Hale Lowe, dau. of Dr. Abraham Lowe, *q. v.* He d. in Andover, at the home of his daughter, July 16, 1867. Three children were b. in Winchendon; four in New Salem and four in this town.

2 I. *William Jonathan*, b. April 19, 1815; he is the senior partner in the well-known firm of Cutler Brothers, importers and wholesale druggists, Boston. He md. April 4, 1843, Lucia C. Washburn of Bridgewater; (2d) March 21, 1855, Cordelia A. Ripley of Brookline; (3d) Feb. 18, 1857, Mrs. Lucy L. Carter of Newtonville.

3 II. *Abigail Hale*, b. June 8, 1816; md. Jan. 25, 1836, Dea. Albert Abbott, a prominent and useful citizen of Andover.

4 III. *Abraham Lowe*, b. June 3, 1818; he resides in Brookline and is senior member of the firm of A. L. Cutler & Co., wholesale dealers in Paints and Oils, Boston. He md. Oct. 30, 1844, Harriet H. Sewall of Bath, Me.

5 IV. *Sarah Lincoln*, b. Nov. 12, 1819; d. Sept. 25, 1839.

6 V. *George*, b. April 23, 1821; of the firm of Cutler Brothers; resides in Boston; md. May 23, 1855, Julia S. Hinks; (2d) July 9, 1863, Josephine Hinks of Brewer, Me.

7 VI. *Edward*, b. Feb. 9, 1824; d. Jan. 16, 1825.

8 VII. *Edward Waldo*, b. June 17, 1826; of the firm of Cutler Brothers; resides in Boston. Md. Sept. 28, 1853, Caroline M. Henderson of Boston.

9 VIII. *Charlotte Keziah*, b. Jan. 29, 1831; d. Feb. 2, 1831.

10 IX. *Charles*, b. Jan. 29, 1831; d. Feb. 3, 1831.

11 X. *Catherine Mary*, b. Jan. 29, 1831; d. Feb. 4, 1831.

The three children were buried Feb. 6.

12 XI. *Charles Henry*, b. March 29, 1833; he is of the firm of C. T. Raynolds & Co., Paints and Oils, Chicago, Ill. He md. Oct. 23, 1872, Hannah S. Coffin of Cincinnati, Ohio.

1 NATHANIEL CUTTER removed from Westminster to Ashburnham 1816. He was b. in Westminster June 5, 1789, and was a son of Josiah and Sally (Seaver) Cutter and a grandson of Nathaniel and Submit (Whitcomb) Cutter of Sudbury. He was a farmer in the southeast part of the

town. In 1850 he removed to Fitchburg and subsequently to Worcester. He md. March 23, 1813, Abigail Taylor, dau. of Samuel and Prudence (Winship) Taylor of Westminster. She d. in Fitchburg Aug. 22, 1861. He d. in Worcester Sept. 27, 1880.

2 I. *Nathaniel F.*, b. in Westminster, Sept. 26, 1815.+
3 II. *Abigail P.*, b. in Ashburnham Sept. 18, 1817; md. Joseph Smith, *q. v.*
4 III. *Sarah Arvilla*, b. July 18, 1820; md. Sept. 25, 1843, Charles Leland of Milford. Four children.
5 IV. *Louisa M.*, b. April 1, 1824; md. 1847, Warren Ellis of Milford. She d. April 18, 1861. Three children.

(2) NATHANIEL F. CUTTER md. Oct. 14, 1835, Nancy H. Clark, dau. of David and Betsey (Rugg) Clark of Worcester; she d. April 6, 1863; he md. (2d) Sept. 15, 1864, Eliza B. Rugg, dau. of John and Sally (Phelps) Rugg of Worcester. She d. Aug. 17, 1885. He was an officer in the Light Infantry. He resided in this town until 1850, when he removed to Worcester and was there engaged in the manufacture of plows. He had by first wife one son b. in this town.

6 I. *Charles Nathaniel*, b. Dec. 21, 1837; md. July 9, 1863, Louisa M. Parker, dau. of Fessenden and Louisa (Hall) Parker of Westmoreland, Vt.; she d. in Worcester Feb. 14, 1864; he md. (2d) Abbie T. Moore, dau. of Wentworth and Abigail M. (Howe) Moore of Worcester.

7 EPHRAIM CUTTER was not a resident of Ashburnham, but after his death his widow and children resided here. He was a son of Ephraim and Deborah (Locke) Cutter and was b. in Charlestown Dec. 2, 1794. He md. Oct. 12, 1817, Sarah A. Russell, dau. of Thomas Russell, *q. v.* He was a grain dealer in West Cambridge where he d. April 4, 1826; his widow md. Joseph Harris, *q. v.*

8 I. *Ephraim*, b. Oct. 4, 1818; resides unmd. in this town.
9 II. *Sarah Adams*, b. Nov. 12, 1820; md. Nov. 29, 1838, Luther L. Barrell, son of Luther Barrell of Westminster. They removed to St. Louis, Mo., where he d. May 20, 1866. Five of their seven children d. in infancy.
10 III. *Clara C.* b. Jan. 12, 1823; md. Feb. 14, 1842,

William Fillebrown of West Cambridge. He d. May 8, 1883. Six children.

11 IV. *Charles Russell*, b. Jan. 27, 1825; md. Dec. 23, 1847, Antoinette Pamelia Parker, dau. of Hollis and Pamelia A. (Pease) Parker. Resided in Boston. He d. Feb. 12, 1877. Two children.

12 JOSEPH CUTTER, b. in Watertown Sept. 9, 1810, removed to this town 1837. He md. July 1, 1841, Ruth Ann Gilchrist, dau. of John Gilchrist of Lunenburg; she d. Aug. 8, 1845. He md. (2d) Nov. 7, 1848, Martha V. Milliken, dau. of William and Anna (Carlton) Milliken of Sharon, N. H.

13 I. *Gertrude Sarah Louisa*, b. Jan. 22, 1844; md. 1862, Frank A. Wood, son of Allen Wood of Westminster.

14 JAMES CUTTER removed from Pelham, N. H., to this town 1860. He is a son of John and Phebe (Rhoades) Cutter of Grafton, Vt., and a grandson of Seth and Abiah (Tallant) Cutter of Pelham, N. H. He was b. in Grafton, Vt., March 28, 1817, and is of the seventh generation of his family in this country. He md. Dec. 28, 1846, Lydia Ann Sweetser of North Yarmouth, Me. Their three children were b. in Pelham, N. H.

15 I. *Sophia E.*, b. Nov. 28, 1847; md. July 31, 1866, Sumner H. Upham; resides at South Village.

16 II. *Samuel S.*, b. Oct. 31, 1851; d. Dec. 16, 1851.

17 III. *James S.*, b. May 4, 1853; md. Oct. 14, 1878, Mary Ellen Puffer, dau. of Charles H. Puffer, *q. v.*; resides in this town.

CUTTING.

SAMUEL CUTTING, the first of the name in Ashburnham, was of the fifth generation of his family in this country. The successive generations appear in Bond's Watertown. Richard Cutting, aged eleven years, embarked at Ipswich, England, for America in April, 1634. With him came William Cutting, perhaps an elder brother. He settled in Watertown and was admitted freeman April 18, 1690. His wife Sarah d. Nov. 4, 1685, aged 60 years. He d. March 21, 1695–6. His son James Cutting, b. Jan. 26, 1647–8, md. June 16, 1669, Hannah Cotler. Their fourth son was Jonathan Cutting, b. Jan 12, 1687–8. He md. Jan. 5, 1709–10, Sarah Flagg, dau. of Allen and Sarah (Ball) Flagg. He d. May 29, 1754; she d. Sept. 3, 1774. Their eldest son Richard Cutting, b. July 30, 1710, md. April 20, 1738, Thankful Harrington, dau. of George and Abiel (Parker) Harrington. They resided in Waltham, where their eight children were b. and where he d. Sept. 22, 1767. His widow md. (2d) March 15, 1770, Samuel Livermore, Esq. She d. Nov. 4, 1772, aged 55 years.

1 SAMUEL CUTTING, son of Richard and Thankful (Harrington) Cutting, was b. in Waltham Oct. 19, 1747. He md. March 9, 1769, Eunice Coolidge, dau. of William and Mary (Mixer) Coolidge. She was a sister of the wife of Col. Francis Lane and a niece of Elisha Coolidge, an early resident of this town. She was b. in Waltham Jan. 12, 1748. They removed to Ashburnham in 1773. The name in this town is generally written Cotting. He was an intelligent, active man, of unblemished character. He d. Dec. 31, 1794. Two children were b. in Waltham and ten in Ashburnham.

2 I. *Anna*, b. 1770; md. Simon Willard, *q. v.*
3 II. *Samuel*, b. April 20, 1772; md. 1803, Hannah Goodridge of Fitchburg. Removed to Rutland, Vt.
4 III. *Hepsibah*, b. Sept. 11, 1773; md. Nathaniel Foster, *q. v.*
5 IV. *William*, b. July 21, 1775; d. April 11, 1776.
6 V. *Betty* (twin), b. July 21, 1775; d. June 4, 1776.
7 VI. *Elizabeth*, bap. March 2, 1777; md. Oct. 18, 1795, Jacob Brooks; d. in Cambridge April 5, 1861; buried in Ashburnham.
8 VII. *Rhoda*, bap. Jan. 17, 1779; d. Nov. 16, 1794.
9 VIII. *Martha*, bap. July 11, 1781; d. 1783.
10 IX. *Mary* (twin), bap. July 11, 1781; d. 1783.
11 X. *Lucy*, b. Nov. 15, 1784; md. Josiah Davis, *q. v.*
12 XI. *John*, b. Dec. 31, 1786. He was blind from youth; resided in this town; d. unmd. Nov. 26, 1866.
13 XII. *Charles*, b. 1791; d. March 3, 1798.

1 ASA DAME, son of Henry and Susan (Frazer) Dame, was b. in Canada July 9, 1846. He came to Ashburnham 1855 and has been an overseer in the cotton mills many years. He md. Dec. 4, 1873, Amelia Lesure, b. Sept. 23, 1850.

2 I. *Maria A.*, b. Jan. 4, 1875.
3 II. *Mary L.*, b. June 21, 1876.

DANA.

The name of Dana is intimately associated with the early annals of Ashburnham. Caleb Dana, Esq., of Cambridge, was the principal proprietor and his name frequently occurs in the early chapters, but he never resided in this town. He was a son of Daniel and Naomi (Croswell) Dana of Cambridge, b. 1697; md. Phebe Chandler and d. 1772. Richard Dana, who was proprietor's clerk several years, was a brother of Caleb, b. 1700; md. Lydia Trowbridge and d. 1772. He was a distinguished counsellor-at-law. The following members of this family have resided in this town.

1 GEORGE DANA, a son of Caleb and Phebe (Chandler) Dana, was b. in Cambridge 1742. He md. Feb. 14, 1764, Margaret Clark, b. July 7, 1743, dau. of Capt. John and Hannah (Cutting) Clark of Waltham. They resided a short time in Stow, where she d. Oct. 3, 1770. He md. (2d) Elizabeth Park. They removed to this town probably in 1773. He assumed control and subsequently appears as the owner of the lands formerly of his father. He was an innholder and frequently employed in public affairs. He was a sergeant in Capt. Gates' company 1775. Mr. Cushing records his death: "George Dana died of dropsy and consumption of ye liver April 11, 1787." His widow md. (2d) March 21, 1790, Capt. Alexander Parmele and subsequently resided in Woodstock, Vt., where she d. 1811. Capt. Parmele d. a few years previously.

2 I. *George*, b. Nov., 1764; md. Hannah Lathrop and resided in Sharon, Vt.

3 II. *Polly*, b. 1767; md. Daniel Comstock of Danbury, Conn.

4 III. *Sarah*, b. 1770; d. young.

5 IV. *Edmund*, b. 1772.

6 V. *Elizabeth*, bap. 1774; d. Feb. 15, 1777.

7 VI. *Sarah Ballard*, bap. 1775; d. Jan. 22, 1777.

8 VII. *Thomas*, bap. 1777.

9 VIII. *John Clark*, bap. 1779.

10 IX. *James*, b. May 29, 1780; md. May 7, 1812, Hannah Dwight. He was a merchant in Utica, N. Y.

11 X. *Charles*, b. Nov. 6, 1781; md. Jan. 20, 1808, Mary Gay Swan. He d. at Woodstock, Vt.

12 XI. *Infant*, d. May 18, 1783.

13 XII. *Infant*, b. 1784; d. Aug. 24, 1786.

14 EZRA DANA resided in this town from about 1790 to 1800. He was a son of William Dana and was b. in Cambridge Sept. 29, 1755. Mr. Dana built the first mill at Burrageville and soon after removed from town and no record of his subsequent career has appeared. I have no information of his family beyond the record of the death of an infant Jan. 10, 1794.

1 CAPT. DELIVERANCE DAVIS, settled in this town as early as 1764. He was a son of Ebenezer and Sarah Davis and was born in Littleton June 30, 1736. Previous to his removal to this town he married Dorothy Wood, b. March 7, 1741, dau. of Bennett and Lydia (Law) Wood of

Littleton, and granddaughter of Jeremiah and Dorothy (Bennett) Wood of Stow, and, subsequently, of Littleton. Capt. Davis was an innholder in this town in 1767 and several later years. He resided on the David Russell place, and later, in the north part of the town, since occupied by his descendants, and for many years he was a prominent man in the affairs of the town. He was captain of one of the companies of minute-men in 1775. *Vide* Chap. V. He d. June 16, 1789. She d. May 10, 1790. The eldest son was b. in Littleton.

2 I. *Ebenezer Bennett*, b. Feb. 4, 1761.+

3 II. *Oliver Taylor*, b. Nov. 22, 1762; md. Mary Sawyer and resided in Harvard.. He d. 1841, leaving eight children.

4 III. *Lydia*, b. Jan. 15, 1765; d. unmd. Aug. 10, 1787.

5 IV. *Sarah*, b. Feb. 18, 1767; md. David Clark, Jr., *q. v.*

6 V. *Dolly*, b. May 30, 1769; md. Ephraim Randall, *q. v.*

7 VI. *Lucy*, b. June 3. 1771; md. —— Stewart; resided in Grafton, Vt.

8 VII. *Zadoc*, b. Nov. 24, 1773; d. Sept. 4, 1778.

9 VIII. *Susannah*, b. Feb. 11, 1776; md. —— Pratt; resided in Grafton, Vt.

10 IX. *Milly*, b. March 8, 1778; md. —— Moore; resided in Maine.

11 X. *Zadoc*, b. May 14, 1780; resided in Maine.

12 XI. *Deliverance*, b. Dec. 19, 1783; resided in Maine.

The brothers Oliver, Zadoc and Deliverance had families, but no records are at hand

(2) Ebenezer Bennett Davis served three years in the Revolution. *Vide* Chapters V and VI. He was a farmer and lived in the north part of the town, where his son, Dea. John C. Davis, resided. Without ostentation he quietly performed the duties of a good citizen and was respected by all who knew him. He md. Jan. 12, 1786, Mary Townsend, dau. of Joshua Townsend, *q. v.* She d. March 16, 1787; he md. (2d) Feb. 5, 1789, Elizabeth Sargent of Princeton, b. in Bolton March 12, 1758. He d. Jan. 7, 1838; she d. Jan. 19, 1838.

13 I. *Infant*, b. and d. March 16, 1787.

14 II. *Mary Townsend* (twin), b. March 16, 1787; md. Jan. 1, 1837, Abraham Foster, *q. v.*

15 III. *Amos*, b. July 31, 1789; md. Almira Fuller, and resided in Grafton, Vt.

16 iv. *Ebenezer*, b. July 30, 1792; d. unmd. Nov. 1, 1835.
17 v. *Elizabeth* (twin), b. July 30,1792; d. unmd. Dec. 24, 1863.
18 vi. *Joseph*, b. Sept. 5, 1794.+
19 vii. *Charles*, b. June 11, 1797.+
20 viii. *Charlotte* (twin), b. June 11, 1797; unmd. She is the oldest resident of this town.
21 ix. *John Cushing*, b. Jan. 29, 1801.+

(17) Joseph Davis was early engaged with his brothers in the manufacture of chairs; subsequently he was a farmer. He owned the farm on which the almshouse is situated, and which he sold to the town. He removed in 1840 to Rindge, where he d. Oct. 10, 1873. He lived above reproach. He md. May 26, 1828, Huldah Lawrence, dau. of Reuben and Lois (Tenney) Lawrence, of Ashley. She d. Dec. 9, 1838; he md. April 15, 1839, Jane McIntyre, dau. of Jacob and Polly (Russell) McIntyre, *q.v.*; she d. Feb. 22, 1846; he md. (3d) Feb. 11, 1847, Rachel Brooks, dau. of Stephen and Rachel (Taylor) Brooks of New Ipswich, and a sister of Dea. Harvey Brooks of this town.

22 i. *Harriet Augusta*, b. Aug. 16, 1829; md. Nov., 1858, Derostus P. Emory, son of Derostus W. and Mary (Pierce) Emory. They reside in Jaffrey, N. H.
23 ii. *George W.*, b. May 22, 1832; md. Aug. 16, 1861, Melissa A. Metcalf, dau. of Erastus and Harriet (Aldrich) Metcalf. He is a successful merchant in Hudson.
24 iii. *Andrew Lysander*, b. Dec. 14, 1834; d. Feb. 27, 1836.
25 iv. *Emily F.*, b. Sept. 15, 1836; md. Samuel W. Kimball, son of Samuel M. and Melinda (Pierce) Kimball. They resided in Rindge where she d.
26 v. *Joseph Lysander*, b. in Rindge. May 29, 1843; drowned in Deerfield Oct. 14, 1869.

(19) Charles Davis was one of the pioneer manufacturers of chairs in this town, and in connection with his brothers it is claimed that he was the first to employ water power in this business. He md. Oct. 11, 1812, Elvira Buss, of Sterling, who d. June 11, 1833; he md. (2d) Aug. 27, 1834, Nabby Buss of Sterling. He d. Sept. 20, 1837; she d. June 2, 1871.

27 I. *Charles Edson*, b. May 11, 1822; he was a physician. *Vide* Chap. XX. He md. May 13, 1856, Rebecca C. Crowley, of Enfield. He d. June 8, 1863.

28 1. Charles O., b. June 1, 1857.

29 II. *Oliver*, b. Aug. 7, 1823. *Vide* Chap. XX. He died unmd. March 1, 1853.

30 III. *Mary Elizabeth*, b. May 1, 1825; died in Boston, unmd. April 30, 1886.

31 IV. *Ruhamah Whitney*, b. March 30, 1827; d. March 25, 1833.

32 V. *Sarah*, b. March 23, 1829; d. unmd. Nov. 9, 1853.

33 VI. *Laura Elvira*, b. March 6, 1831; md. Nov. 11, 1858, David W. Miller, of Westminister. They reside in Gardner.

34 1. Charles O., b. March 9, 1861; md. Jan. 9, 1883, Mary Dargie.

35 2. George W., b. Nov. 30, 1866.

36 VII. *Ruhamah Whitney*, b. May 3, 1833; d. Feb. 17, 1848.

(21) Dea. John C. Davis resided on the farm occupied by his father and by his grandfather. He was a manufacturer of chairs and a farmer. He d. June 19, 1883. His widow, advanced in years, resides upon the homestead and near the place of her birth. m LUCY STIMSON q.v.

37 I. *Lucy Orintha*, b. Nov. 22, 1826; md. Jan. 25, 1848, Charles Allen, son of Salmon and Sophia (Sawtell) Allen of Rindge. They reside in Fitchburg.

38 II. *Phebe Elizabeth*, b. Nov. 15, 1830; md, June 11, 1850, Edward F. Rollins; he was a lieutenant in the war of the rebellion. They reside in Boston.

39 III. *Elmira C.*, b. Dec. 9, 1834; md. April 30, 1862, Frank N. Harris, son of William Harris, *q. v.*

40 Amos Davis, birth and parentage unknown; removed to this town from Sudbury about 1818. He had a large family, and had previously resided a short time in Maine. I have no record of his marriage, but find ample evidence of the event in the number of his children. He d. Sept. 16, 1830, aged 80 years; his wife d. Aug. 3, 1829. It is probable that the children are not named in the order of age.

41 I. *Jonas*, b. 1781; d. in this town, unmd., Aug. 2, 1864.
42 II. *Jonathan*.
43 III. *Susannah*, md. John Wilson, *q. v.*
44 IV. *Joseph*, md. —— ——; she d. April 7, 1818; md. (2d) March 7, 1819, Molly S. Gates, dau. of Henry Gates, *q. v.*; she d. Sept. 27, 1834.
45 V. *Amos* was md.; buried several children in this town; removed to Vermont.
46 VI. *Lucy*, md. April 20, 1819, William Pollard, *q. v.*
47 VII. *Aaron*, md. April 12, 1819, Rebecca Anne Stewart. She was a native of New Zealand. Her swarthy complexion indicates that she was born under the tropical sun.

48 1. Elizabeth Inches, b. June 20, 1824.
49 2. John Alexander Stewart, b. July 16, 1825.
50 3. Charles Robert Wilson, b. March 23, 1827.
51 4. George Washington, b. Oct. 9, 1831.
52 5. Henry Albert, b. April 22, 1833.

53 VIII. *Ruth*, d. young.
IX. *Sally*, md. 1834, Joshua Stowell, *q. v.*
54 X. *Adam S.*, b. 1800; md. 1826, Martha Cowdin; she d. Oct. 10, 1856. He md. (2d) 1858, widow Lydia Stinegar, of unsavory reputation. He d. May 12, 1881; she d. Aug. 14, 1875.

55 1. Mary Amanda, b. Nov. 19, 1828; d. Jan. 12, 1829.
56 2. George W., b. Jan. 3, 1830; d. Feb. 20, 1830.
57 3. Mary C., b. June 23, 1831; d. Sept. 9, 1834.
58 4. Sarah Samantha, b. Oct. 30, 1833.

59 Josiah Davis, b. May 6, 1779; md. 1800, Sarah Piper, b. Aug. 22, 1783, dau. of Jonathan and Elizabeth Piper. They resided many years in Ashby, where she d. about 1830. He md. (2d) April 21, 1836, Lucy Cutting, dau. of Samuel Cutting, *q. v.*, and removed to this town, where he d. She d. Feb. 15, 1869.

60 Alonzo P. Davis, son of Josiah and Sarah (Piper) Davis, b. in Ashby, July 23, 1818; md. July 27, 1841, Emily M. Russell, dau. of Thomas and Hepsey (Adams) Russell, *q. v.* By occupation he is a harness-maker. He has resided in this town since 1845. He has been

prominently connected with the Ashburnham Light Infantry many years, and was an officer from 1855 until the company was mustered into the service. While in the service he was a lieutenant. *Vide* Chapters XVIII and XIX.

61 I. *Warren A.*, b. Aug. 23, 1848; md. Oct. 8, 1877, Isabelle Roscoe. He is a railroad conductor; resides in Aurora, Ill.

62 II. *Joseph George*, b. June 3, 1852; d. April 30, 1853.

63 III. *Lona M.*, b. Oct. 8, 1854; resides in Ashburnham.

64 GEORGE DAVIS, son of Reuben Davis, of Ashby; md. Dec. 27, 1836, Nancy H. White, dau. of Josiah White, *q. v.* He was a blacksmith in this town, where he d. Sept. 9, 1875; she d. March 17, 1856.

65 I. *Elizabeth Matilda*, b. Nov. 28, 1837; md. Nov. 16, 1856, James Wheeler, of Fitchburg; he d., and she md. (2d) Jan. 1, 1881, Robert Shackley; resides in Charlestown.

66 II. *George Edwin*, b. Sept. 6, 1839. He was a lieutenant in 21st Regiment. *Vide* Chap. XIX. He md. Feb. 18, 1864, Helen M. Puffer, dau. of Reuben Puffer. He resides in Fort Madison, Iowa.

67 III. *John W.*, b. Sept. 26, 1846; d. Sept. 12, 1848.

68 IV. *Charles W.*, b. Sept. 9, 1852; d. Nov. 14, 1373.

69 JOEL DAVIS, son of Josiah Davis, of New Ipswich, md. May 28, 1807, Rebecca Adams, dau. of John Adams, *q. v.* She died, and he md. (2d) Orpah Stearns, dau. of Isaac Stearns, *q. v.* She died March 9, 1866. Mr. Davis lived on the north turnpike several years, and kept the "Children of the Woods" tavern. About 1828 he removed to Lowell. No record of children has been secured. An infant d. in this town, March 11, 1824, and a daughter, Rebecca, was living when the family removed from town.

1 MICHAEL DEMPSEY, b. in Ireland, 1816, md. Ellen Connell, and in early life emigrated to America. He came to Ashburnham 1845, and for many years he was a switchman in the employ of the Cheshire R. R. His wife d. about 1856, and he md. (2d) 1857, Mary Kennedy. He d. March 13, 1882.

2 I. *John*, b. 1840; md. Alice Donohoe; a railroad conductor; resides at Philadelphia, Penn.

3 II. *Michael*, b. 1842; resides in Philadelphia, Penn.

4 III. *Mary*, b. 1844; md. John Shay of Fitchburg.
5 IV. *Bridget*, b. 1846; md. Cornelius Bresnahan; they reside in Ashburnham.
6 V. *William*, b. 1853; md. 1879, Nellie Coughlin; he is a switchman in employ of Cheshire R. R.
7 VI. *Timothy*, b. 1855; md. Mary Roach; resides in Virginia City.
8 VII. *Jeremiah*, b. 1860; a switchman in employ of Cheshire R. R.

1 MILO DERBY, son of Nathan and Susan (Thompson) Derby, was b. 1802. Nathan Derby, the father, resided in Lancaster, Rindge, and Andover, Vt. Milo Derby md. Nov. 27, 1833, Clara Cook, dau. of John Cook, *q. v.*, and resided in this town, where he d. June 8, 1851. His widow md. (2d) David Nutting, who d. Feb. 24, 1863.

2 I. *Edward M.*, b. May 16, 1836; d. Nov. 27, 1844.
3 II. *Wilbur M.*, b. May 6, 1841; md. May 10, 1865, Martha A. Page, dau. of Warren and Mary (Brown) Page, of Winchester, N. H. They resided in Rindge several years, and, subsequently in this town; removed 1883 to Florida.
4 III. *Lizzie C.*, b. March 29, 1848; md. May 10, 1865, Willard Page, son of Warren and Mary (Brown) Page; she died Sept. 27, 1867.

5 JOSIAH DERBY, a brother of Milo Derby, b. July 4, 1805, resided many years in this town, where he d. April 4, 1876. He md. Feb. 2, 1832, Betsey Whitney, dau. of Capt. Lemuel Whitney, *q. v.*; she d. Aug. 8, 1868.

6 I. *Sarah E.*, b. May 23, 1833; d. June 13, 1844.
7 II. *Mary A.*, b. Sept. 28, 1834; md. Dec. 19, 1860, William Flint; he d. in the army; she md. (2d) Jona. Edward Goodwin, *q. v.*
8 III. *Jane E.*, b. July 9, 1836; md. Feb. 25, 1869, John H. Whitney.
9 IV. *Emily A.*, b. Jan. 14, 1838; md. July 29, 1860, George Fuller of Shirley; she d. July 7, 1867.
10 V. *Urania*, b. April 30, 1839; md. June 2, 1859, Boardman F. Warren of Townsend.
11 VI. *Josiah*, b. Nov. 20, 1840; d. June 17, 1844.
12 VII. *Franklin G.*, b. June 10, 1842; d. July 20, 1842.
13 VIII. *Selina*, b. May 26, 1843; md. Nov. 21, 1866, Joseph N. Day of Lancaster.
14 IX. *Joseph H.*, b. Oct. 21, 1844; d. May 26, 1866.

15 x. *Harriet E.*, b. July 31, 1846; md. March 23, 1875, Lafayette W. Peirce, Esq., of Winchendon.
16 xi. *Sarah A.*, b. Sept. 6, 1848; md. Oct. 10, 1874, Louis Morse of St. Albans, Vt.
17 xii. *Francena E.*, b. Oct. 3, 1850.

1 George Dickinson removed from Rowley to Harvard about 1740, where five children were born. About 1760 he came to this town. The new settlements invited the young and the strong, and Mr. Dickinson found here very few his superior in years. The name of his wife was Sarah, but I have not found any record of his marriage. He d. Nov. 15, 1776, aged 70; she d. Sept. 10, 1780. This name appears in the records Dickinson and Dickerson, with even-handed impartiality. The following children were b. in Harvard:

2 i. *Jeremiah*, b. Dec. 16, 1736.
3 ii. *Daniel*, b. June 14, 1739.
4 iii. *David*, b. Oct. 7, 1741.+
5 iv. *Amos*, b. March 14, 1743.+
6 v. *Francis*, b. Sept. 20, 1746.

(4) David Dickinson, md. July 16, 1767, Persis Wheeler, dau. of Seth Wheeler of New Ipswich, and resided in this town until 1779, when he removed to Shelburne.

7 i. *David*, bap. 1769.
8 ii. *Sally*, bap. 1771.

(5) Amos Dickinson md. March 12, 1770, Elizabeth Stone. Mr. Cushing records his death Jan. 4, 1788, with the remark, "he died of bilious colic, aged 40 to 50 years." There is a record of birth of only one child. Others were bap.

9 i. *Amos*, bap. in private July 27, 1772. He d. the same day.
10 ii. *Betty*, b. Sept. 14, 1773; md. May 10, 1794, Isaac Jackson.
11 iii. *Sarah*, bap. Oct. 13, 1776.
12 iv. *Dolly*, bap. Oct. 3, 1779; md. James Adams, *q. v.*

13 John Dickinson, probably connected with the foregoing families, resided in this town several years, at least, succeeding the Revolution. He md. March 22, 1790, Rose Gibson of Ashby.

1 JOSIAH DODGE md., probably in Concord, Hannah Conant, dau. of Ebenezer Conant, *q. v.* He came to Ashburnham soon after the date of incorporation and removed to Machais, Me., about 1787. The children are named in the records, but the date of birth of only one was entered.

2 I. *Eunice.*
3 II. *Mary.*
4 III. *Josiah.*
5 IV. *Anna.*
6 V. *Betty.*
7 VI. *Reuben.*
8 VII. *Daniel.*
9 VIII. *Ebenezer*, b. June 30, 1779.

1 WILLIAM DOOLAN was b. in the County of Cork in Ireland 1824. In 1846 he md. Mary Ann Butler. They came to America about two years after their marriage and came to this town in 1849. He was drafted in May, 1864, and served in the 19th Regiment until the following July. He d. Sept. 30, 1868; his widow d. March, 1876.

2 I. *Richard*, b. Jan. 15, 1847; md. Dec. 21, 1870, Margaret Hayes; resides in this town.
3 II. *David*, b. April 21, 1850; unmd; resides in this town.
4 III. *Hannah*, b. Nov. 30, 1852.
5 IV. *Margaret*, b. March 1, 1854.
6 V. *William*, b. March 27, 1856.
7 VI. *John*, b. Aug. 30, 1860.
8 VII. *Mary*, b. Dec. 25, 1862.
9 VIII. *Ellen*, b. May 15, 1863.
10 IX. *Josie*, b. July 15, 1865.

11 THOMAS DOOLAN, a native of Ireland, was b. in 1836. He is a farmer in this town upon the Dickerson Brooks farm. He came to Ashburnham about 1860. He md. Feb. 9, 1861, Honora Hartnett, b. in Ireland, 1836.

12 I. *Anna*, b. Nov. 14, 1861.
13 II. *Thomas*, b. June 17, 1865.
14 III. *Margaret*, b. Nov. 26, 1869.
15 IV. *Mary Elizabeth*, b. Dec. 30, 1871.
16 V. *David E.*
17 VI. *Daniel.*

DUNSTER.

The only permanent resident of this town who bore the name of Dunster was Samuel Dunster. He was a lineal descendant of Henry Dunster the first president of Harvard University. The generations are Henry, Jonathan, Henry, Jason and Samuel. Jason Dunster, a great-grandson of Henry Dunster and a son of Henry and Martha (Russell) Dunster, b. 1725, md. Oct. 26, 1749, Rebecca Cutter, dau. of Samuel and Anne (Harrington) Cutter. He removed from Cambridge to Mason, N. H., 1769, when Samuel was three years of age. In 1801 Jason Dunster and his wife Rebecca removed to Ashburnham and united with the church in this town, but the following year they returned to Mason, where he d. Feb. 19, 1805, aged 80 years.

1 SAMUEL DUNSTER, son of Jason and Rebecca (Cutter) Dunster, was b. in Cambridge April 20, 1766. He was bap. Samuel Cutter, but omitting the middle name he was known as Samuel Dunster. He removed to this town in 1802 and three years later he bought a tract of land at Factory Village. He was an enterprising man and his intimate connection with the early manufactures of this town is mentioned in the preceding chapters. He md. Jan. 12, 1792, Hannah Townsend, b. in Northboro Aug. 8, 1770, eldest dau. of Samuel and Hannah (Lawrence) Townsend. She d. Aug. 8, 1826; he md. (2d) March 1, 1827, Madamoisella Townsend, a sister of his first wife; she was b. in Mason, N. H., March 19, 1794. He d. April 19, 1839. His widow md. (2d) Aug. 29, 1843, Samuel Knight, *q. v.* There were no children. The wife of Joel Barrett was a sister of the wives of Samuel Dunster.

1 SALMON DUTTON, son of Joseph and Rebecca (Adams) Dutton and grandson of Thomas and Hannah (Burge) Dutton of Westford, was b. 1744; resided in this town a few years, immediately following the date of incorporation. He removed to Cavendish, Vt., where he d. 1824.

2 THOMAS DUTTON, a brother of Salmon, was b. in Westford, Jan. 8, 1747–8. He md. 1768, Sarah Bigelow, a sister of Silas Bigelow, *q. v.* They came to this town in 1770, and a few years later removed to Jaffrey, N. H., where several of their ten children were b. She d. Dec. 23, 1811. He d. Dec. 31, 1838.

3 SAMUEL DUTTON resided in this town only a few years. He d. here Oct. 22, 1815. His age was recorded "30 to 40 years." No record of his marriage has been found.

4 | INFANT, d. July 19, 1815.

1 | TIMOTHY DWIGHT, settled in this town in 1766 and d. April 2, 1769, being the first adult who d. in this town after the ordination of Mr. Cushing. He was the son of Samuel and Jane (Bulkley) Dwight of Dedham and Sutton, b. May 27, 1745. He md. Sarah Alden and in 1770 the father and the widow petition the General Court for power to sell the lands in Ashburnham, and also assert that he left two daughters. The widow md. Thomas Newhall of Leicester, where she d. 1797.

2 | I. *Sarah*, b. 1766; md. Edmund Muzzey; d. May 23, 1819.

3 | II. *Mehitable*, b. May 6, 1768; md. David Trask; d. 1800.

EATON.

JOHN EATON with his wife Abigail and two children embarked at London for New England in 1635. He was admitted freeman at Watertown 1636, and the following year he settled in Dedham, where he d. Nov. 17, 1658. His son John, b. about 1636, lived in Dedham; by wife Alice he had seven sons and one daughter. William Eaton, son of John and Alice Eaton, b. 1677, also was a resident of Dedham. He md. 1704, Mary Starr, and d. 1718. His son, Josiah Eaton, b. 1711, md. 1736, Sarah Day and removed to Needham, where he d. 1802. Among the ten children of Josiah and Sarah (Day) Eaton was John Eaton who served in the Revolution and removed to Winchendon, and while residing there he md. May 17, 1779, Mary Larkin of Lancaster. He resided in the southeast part of Winchendon and was included in Gardner when that town was incorporated 1785. He d. in Gardner Nov. 24, 1827; his wife d. Sept. 22, 1817. He had six children, and among them was Josiah Eaton of Ashburnham, of the sixth generation in America. He is number 1 in the following register.

Another branch of the Eaton family is descended from Nathaniel Eaton, a resident and a leather dresser of Boston, who md. Aug. 26, 1743, Mercy Trott; md. (2d) Sarah Day, dau. of James Day. He d. 1750. Nathaniel Eaton, Jr., b. July 24, 1744, was the only child that was living at the death of the father. He was a baker by trade and resided in Roxbury and later in Lancaster. He was a captain of the minute-men in Lancaster, where he d., aged 97 years. He md. Martha Gridley of Roxbury, dau. of Dea. William Gridley. He md. (2d) Dec. 30, 1778, widow Lucy Bennett. John Eaton, who is number 16 in the register, was the ninth of fourteen children; five by the first and nine by the second marriage. It is suggested by Prof. Daniel C. Eaton of Yale College, an acknowledged authority in the genealogy of the Eaton family, and to whom I am indebted for many facts in this register, that probably the earlier generations in this line of descent were (1) Nathaniel; (2) Benoni, b. 1639, d. 1690, of Cambridge; (3) Theophilus, b. 1674; (4) Nathaniel, who was in Boston 1720, and (5) Nathaniel, first named, who md. Mercy Trott.

The lineage of Nathan Eaton, number 25, is not allied to that of the other families of Eaton in this town. The emigrant ancestor of this family was William Eaton of Staple in the county of Kent, England. With his wife Martha, three children and one servant he sailed from Sandwich in 1637 and settled first at Watertown, and subsequently removed to Reading, where he

d. May 16, 1673. His wife d. Nov. 14, 1680. John Eaton, eldest son and third of the five children of William, resided in Reading; md. March 8, 1668 or 1669, Elizabeth Kendall, dau. of Dea. Thomas Kendall of Reading; he d. Dec. 17, 1695. William Eaton, the sixth of their eleven children, was b. in Reading Dec. 1, 1670. He resided in Reading and in Lynnfield, where he d. 1734; he md. April 29, 1695, Mary Swain, dau. of Major Jeremiah Swain who survived him. Jeremiah Eaton, second of the nine children of William Eaton, was b. July 10, 1698; md. in Lynn April 10, 1722, Margaret Hawks; md. (2d) Nov. 3, 1730, Hannah Osgood, dau. of Samuel Osgood of Andover. He was a carpenter, went to Haverhill 1733, and to Hampstead about 1748, where he d. 1754. Jeremiah Eaton, son of Jeremiah and Hannah (Osgood) Eaton, b. April 25, 1738, md. April 14, 1761, Lydia Flint; md. (2d) Nov. 16, 1780, widow Hannah Wardwell of Andover. He was a deacon of the church in North Reading and resided near the line between Reading and Lynn. He d. July 17, 1791. There were seven children of the first and four of the second marriage. Osgood Eaton, son of Dea. Jeremiah and Lydia (Flint) Eaton, was b. Jan. 7, 1770. About 1805 he removed to Farmington, Me. He was a carpenter. He md. Jan. 22, 1797, Joanna Leighton, b. in Westford Dec. 30, 1776, dau. of Francis and Lydia (Fitch) Leighton; d. in Reading Sept. 1, 1803. He md. (2d) Nov. 9, 1804, Polly Jaquith. He d. Sept. 21, 1830. Nine children. Osgood Eaton, son of Osgood and Joanna (Leighton) Eaton, was b. in Reading Feb. 2, 1799. In his childhood the family removed to Maine. He md. Feb. 2, 1825, Hannah Wentworth of Strong and settled in Wilton in that State. He was a farmer and was frequently employed in public affairs. He d. Jan. 7, 1877; she d. June 26, 1871. Among their ten children was Nathan Eaton of Ashburnham.

1 JOSIAH EATON, son of John and Mary (Larkin) Eaton, was b. in Gardner Jan. 13, 1787. He md. Mary Reed, dau. of Jonas Reed, *q. v.*, and removed to this town about 1816. Three children were b. in Gardner and seven in this town. He d. Dec. 7, 1862; his wife survived him and d. Aug. 12, 1872.

2 I. *Merrick*, b. Sept. 30, 1811.+

3 II. *Mary Ann*, b. Dec. 14, 1812; md. 1832, Samuel Kelton, son of Lemuel and Patty (Angier) Kelton of Gardner.

4 III. *Josiah*, b. May 5, 1814; md. 1839, Abbie Wheeler, dau. of Samuel C. and Abigail (Wilson) Wheeler of New Ipswich. He d. at Saratoga, N. Y., March 29, 1865.

5 IV. *Hosea*, b. March 10, 1820; md. Nov. 28, 1845, Mary Wheeler, dau. of Samuel C. and Abigail (Wilson) Wheeler of New Ipswich. He resided in New Ipswich. Hon. Hosea Eaton was a man of quick perceptions and of marked ability. He was Provost Marshal during the war of the Rebellion, and has served with distinction in both branches of the New Hampshire Legislature, and for many years, and until his death, held an appointment in Boston Customs. He d. in

Rindge, where he was temporarily residing on account of feeble health, Nov. 26, 1879.

6 v. *Danforth Leander*, b. July 4, 1822; md. Dec. 5, 1848, Mary Helen Look, dau. of John and Charlotte (Hopkins) Look of Farmers Creek, Mich.; she d. 1858; he md. (2d) Oct. 2, 1860, Octavia Richards, dau. of Arba and Emily (Kelsey) Richards of Lowell, Mich. He is a clergyman residing in Lowell, Mich. *Vide* Chap. XX.

7 vi. *Otis W.*, b. May 29, 1823; d. at Saratoga, N. Y., Nov. 4, 1871. He md. Dec. 25, 1842, Harriet Wheeler, dau. of Samuel C. and Abigail (Wilson) Wheeler.

8 vii. *George*, b. May 16, 1826; d., by accident, May 30, 1850.

9 viii. *Lucy E.*, b. Sept. 23, 1827; d. May 22, 1859.

10 ix. *Nancy W.*, b. June 20, 1833; md. March 27, 1855, Orson W. Look; d. in Michigan Oct. 4, 1860.

11 x. *Charles C.*, b. April 25, 1835; resides in Saratoga, N. Y.; md. Elizabeth Hosley.

(2) Merrick Eaton, son of Josiah Eaton, md. 1836, Elizabeth A. Gates of Gardner, and he md. (2d) June 14, 1860, Rebecca C. Lane, dau. of Francis Lane, *q. v.* He resided in this town, where he d. Feb. 16, 1875.

12 i. *Harriet*, b. May 11, 1839; md. Noah Hardy of Hollis, N. H.

13 ii. *Albert*, d. in infancy.

14 iii. *Mary*, b. Sept. 10, 1845; md. April 15, 1864, William H. Cruse, b. March 2, 1843, son of John G. T. Cruse of Westminster. They reside in the South Village. Three children.

15 iv. *Ellen*, d. in infancy.

16 John Eaton, son of Nathaniel, was b. in Lancaster, Oct. 21, 1784; md. June 12, 1808, Eunice Jones, dau. of Enos Jones, *q. v.* He was a cabinet-maker. He resided in this town from 1805 to 1809 or 1810, when he removed to Royalston, and about 1830 he removed to Fitzwilliam, N. H., where he d. Sept. 22, 1835. She d. 1852.

17 i. *Albin Jones*, b. June 19, 1809; md. March 27, 1838, Delight Stone, dau. of David Stone of Fitzwilliam. He was a physician at Oakham.

18 ii. *Harriet M.*, b. Oct. 6, 1811; md. Aug. 31, 1841,

Otis Whittemore, son of William S., and Molly (Locke) Whittemore of Fitzwilliam. They removed to Richland, Iowa.

19 III. *John H.*, b. June 6, 1814; removed to Richland, Iowa.

20 IV. *Nathaniel L.*, b. May 23, 1816; resides unmd. in Ashburnham, where he has been engaged in business and frequently employed in town affairs.

21 V. *Eunice Ann*, b. June 21, 1819; md. Nov. 20, 1839, Chauncy Davis, son of Chauncy Davis of Fitzwilliam.

22 VI. *Charles L.*, b. March 21, 1822, resides unmd. in the West.

23 VII. *Lucy A.*, b. Aug. 12. 1824; d. Feb. 13, 1829.

24 VIII. *Francis W.*, b. Feb. 26, 1827; d. Dec. 12, 1837.

25 NATHAN EATON, of the eighth generation in the lineage of William Eaton, is a son of Osgood and Hannah (Wentworth) Eaton. He was b. in Wilton, Me., April 5, 1836. He is a contractor and builder and has resided in this town since 1862. He has been an efficient member of the school committee many years and has never failed in the support of any laudable enterprise. He md. June 27, 1865, Mary I. Maynard, dau. of Antipas Maynard, *q. v.* She d. May 20, 1866; he md. (2d) Nov. 29, 1868, Emma C. Maynard, dau. of Antipas Maynard, *q. v.*

26 WENDELL EATON, not immediately related to the foregoing families, a son of John and Eunice (Kemp) Eaton of Westminster, b. Sept. 5, 1834, md April 7, 1870, Serepta A. Johnson, b. March 20, 1842, dau. of Daniel and Phileta (Fitts) Johnson of Templeton. He is a farmer and mechanic residing on the Litch place in the south part of the town.

EDDY.

The Eddy families of New England are descendants of John and Samuel Eddy, sons of William Eddy, Vicar of the Church of St. Dustan in Cranbrook, County of Kent, England. The brothers arrived at Plymouth Oct. 29, 1630. John Eddy, who was b. in March, 1597, settled in Watertown in 1631. He was admitted freeman Sept. 3, 1634, and was a Selectman of Watertown, 1635, '36, '37. By wife Amy he had nine children. He md. (2d) Joana —— who d. Aug. 25, 1683; he d. Oct. 12, 1684. Samuel Eddy, son of John and Amy Eddy, was b. in Watertown Sept. 30, 1640, and was admitted freeman March 22, 1689–90. He resided in Watertown and was many times elected to office. He md. 1664, Sarah Meade. He d. Nov. 22, 1711. A fac-simile of his signature is preserved. Samuel Eddy, eldest child of Samuel and Sarah (Meade) Eddy, b. June 4, 1668, md. Dec. 13, 1693, Elizabeth Woodward, dau. of George and Elizabeth (Hammond) Woodward.

He was living in 1722. The sixth of his seven children was Ebenezer Eddy, b. probably 1705; md. Ruth Ward, b. May 19, 1710, dau. of Eleazer and Deliverance (Trowbridge) Ward of Newton. He removed to Oxford, now Auburn, where he d. 1767. Abel Eddy, the second of his five children, b. April 15, 1741, removed to Belchertown, where Abijah Eddy, the second of nine children was b. June 1, 1776; he [Abijah] md. June 2, 1801, Beulah Cheney, b. in Orange, Jan. 26, 1784, dau. of Eben Cheney. He removed to Warwick, where he d. March 23, 1836; his widow d. April 3, 1838. Abijah Eddy, son of Abijah and Beulah (Cheney) Eddy, b. Aug. 6, 1807, md. Jan. 1833, Lucretia Ball Stearns, b. Feb. 19, 1814. He d. in Somerville, Nov. 25, 1880.

1 GEORGE WELLS EDDY, son of Abijah and Lucretia B. (Stearns) Eddy, was b. in Warwick July 24, 1837, and has resided in Ashburnham since 1859, where he has been an accountant for George C. Winchester and for the Boston Chair Manufacturing Company. He has been president of the Ashburnham National Bank since 1879, and in 1880 he represented the district in the Legislature. He was an early and earnest advocate of a public library and to his continued support the enterprise is indebted. In 1883 he was chosen a deacon of the Congregational church. He md. Nov. 27, 1883, Etta Elizabeth Stratton, b. Oct. 9, 1844, dau. of Stillman and Maria (Keyes) Stratton of Winchendon.

2 ELIPHALET EDDY, who resided in this town sixteen years, was b. in Auburn Oct. 12, 1810. He was a son of Jesse Eddy, a grandson of Levi Eddy of Oxford and a great-grandson of Samuel Eddy who was a brother of Ebenezer Eddy named in the preceding record. He owned the mill now of Robert W. McIntire several years and removed from town about 1848. He was not md.

1 ELIJAH EDSON removed from Bridgewater to this town in 1769. He was a son of Dr. Elijah and Anne (Packard) Edson and grandson of Capt. Josiah Edson. He md. in Bridgewater Martha Washburn and three children were b. previous to their removal to this town. He was a drummer in Capt. Gates' company in 1775 and is named in the records a short time after that date. The family disappears about 1778.

2 I. *Sarah.*

3 II. *Olive.*

4 III. *Ziba.*

5 IV. *Infant*, b. 1775; d. May 13, 1776.

6 DANIEL EDSON, a younger brother of Elijah, was a resident of Ashburnham in 1775 and a short time subsequently. He was in Capt. Gates' and Capt. Wilder's companies and participated in the siege of Boston until Jan. 1, 1776. I find no record of his marriage nor does the name of his wife appear in the records.

7 1. *Infant*, b. and d. Jan. 14, 1775.

ELLIS.

The older branch of the Ellis family of Ashburnham is descended from the Dedham family. The parentage of Joseph Ellis who was b. 1666 I cannot state with accuracy as two of the same name were b. in Dedham the same year. One was a son of Joseph and Ruth Ellis, the other a son of Richard and Elizabeth Ellis. One of these md. 1703, Sarah Hemenway. He d. 1721, aged 55 years. Aaron Ellis, a son of Joseph and Sarah (Hemenway) Ellis, md. Jan. 4, 1726–7, Zipporah Lewis. Their children were Nathan, Aaron, Abel, Paul, Jesse, Oliver, Zipporah and Sarah. He d. 1746 and his widow md. 1747, Timothy Colburn of Dedham. Aaron Ellis, son of Aaron and Zipporah (Lewis) Ellis, served in 1754 in the French and Indian War and subsequently resided in Winchendon. Jesse Ellis, brother of Aaron Ellis, and perhaps other members of this family, removed to Winchendon. Sarah (Hemenway) Ellis, the grandmother of Aaron and Jesse Ellis, d. in Winchendon at an advanced age and was the second person buried in the old cemetery in the southwest part of the town.

1 JESSE ELLIS, son of Aaron and Zipporah (Lewis) Ellis, was b. in Dedham Oct. 25, 1740. He md. Mary Harding, dau. of Moses Harding of Medfield. They resided in Medfield, where she d. Sept. 28, 1776. Soon after this date he sold his real estate and removed to Winchendon. He md. (2d) Miriam Hill and continued to live in Winchendon until 1799, when he removed to Ashburnham and was the first of the name in this town. In 1793 while of Winchendon he was one of a committee to build school-houses in that town and his name is occasionally mentioned in the Ashburnham records. He d. Dec. 31, 1822; his widow d. Feb. 11, 1831. Two children by first wife were b. in Medfield and three by second wife were b. in Winchendon.

2 I. *Obed*, b. April 27, 1768; md. July 17, 1794. Margaret C. Adams, dau. of Nathan Adams of Medfield; he resided in Medfield, where he d. June 4, 1819; she d. May 31, 1844. No children.

3 II. *Mary*, b. 1773; md. July 17, 1794, William Peters of Medfield. He d. Feb. 26, 1843; she d. March 18, 1835. Two children.

4 1. Mary, md. Nov. 27, 1814, Dr. James Hewins.
5 2. Amy, md. Oct. 1, 1823, Rev. C. C. Sewell.

6 III. *Miriam*, b. April 7, 1780; md. April 7, 1803, Stephen Maynard, *q. v.*
7 IV. *Zipporah*, b. Nov. 29, 1782; md. Dec. 2, 1802, Joseph Miller, *q. v.*
8 V. *Jesse*, b. June 19, 1789.+

(8) JESSE ELLIS, son of Jesse, was a farmer in this town. He resided on the farm now owned by Samuel J. Bradlee of Ashby. He md. Nov. 8, 1807, Abigail Whitney, dau. of Silas Whitney, *q. v.*, who d. Jan. 24, 1869; he d. July 17, 1870. Nine children.

9 I. *Mary W.*, b. March 13, 1809; md. Oliver G. Caldwell, son of John Caldwell, *q. v.*
10 II. *Samuel*, b. April 1, 1811; md. April 23, 1837, Sarah W. Cushing, dau. of Laban Cushing, *q. v.* He resided in this town, in Burlington, Vt., in Union City, N. Y., and later in Fitchburg, where he d. Aug. 17, 1880. He was esteemed for judgment and intelligence in business, and for many years was in the staging and livery business. Subsequently he was engaged in the shipment of flour, grain and lumber from the West. His widow resides in Fitchburg.
11 III. *William Peters*, b. Jan. 31, 1813.+
12 IV. *Obed*, b. March 13, 1815; md. Sept. 13, 1842, Mercy Stoddard, b. Dec. 23, 1817, dau. of Charles and Lovisa (Brigham) Stoddard. He resides, a farmer, in Dublin, N. H.

13 1. Charles J., b. Oct. 26, 1845; md. Anstis Brooks; resides in Dublin, N. H.

14 V. *Nancy*, b. Sept. 3, 1817; md. Nov. 10, 1839, Bailey Marble, son of Samuel Marble; she d. Dec. 15, 1873; he d. Nov. 3, 1878.
15 VI. *Sarah*, b. Jan. 20, 1822; md. Sept. 17, 1849, Ohio Brown, son of Josiah Brown; resided in Stow and in this town.
16 VII. *Lucy Caldwell*, b. Dec. 11, 1824; md. Noyes B. Herrick, *q. v.*
17 VIII. *Susan Brown*, b. April 23, 1829; md. May 29, 1867, Jonathan A. Perham, b. in Tyngsboro Dec. 4, 1820, son of Ralph and Sybil (Perham) Perham; reside in Ashburnham.

18 ix. *Mary Jane*, b. Aug. 13, 1833; md. William H. Brown of Stow.

(11) William P. Ellis, Esq., pursued a partial course of study at Oberlin College and was engaged in teaching several years, including four years near Newark, N. J., and two terms among the colored refugees in Canada. In 1845 he returned to Ashburnham, where he has since resided. He has been engaged in manufactures and was a merchant several years. He has ever been a loyal citizen and has frequently been called to positions of trust both in town and parish affairs, and was enumerator of the census 1880 and 1885. In every laudable enterprise his influence has been constant and salutary. He was a deacon of the Congregational Church from 1849 until his resignation in 1862. Dea. Ellis has been deeply interested in the preparation of the History of his native town and has furnished a generous measure of statistics and of family records. To his willing efforts the reader and the author are under enduring obligations. He md. April 21, 1841, Anner Green Randall, dau. of Samuel Randall, *q. v.*; she d. March 10, 1885. He md. (2d) Oct. 18, 1885, Martha (Swain) Wellington, dau. of Nathaniel and Sally (Damon) Swain, and widow of Albert Wellington of Ashby.

19 Daniels Ellis, a son of Bethuel Ellis and a grandson of John Ellis of Wrentham, was b. in Sherburn Oct. 17, 1799. He md. Nov. 9, 1820, Laura Spear, in Billingham Feb. 4, 1797. They resided in Barre, Templeton and Winchendon until 1850 when they removed to the North Village in this town. He was a farmer and was also engaged many years in the manufacture of lumber. He d. Feb. 22, 1885; she d. Jan 1, 1881. Six children.

20 i. *Bethuel*, b. Nov. 17, 1822; md. Jane H. Hapgood, dau. of John and Betsey (Temple) Hapgood of Winchendon; md. (2d) Etta (Carter) Whitney, dau. of Ebenezer and Clarissa (Colburn) Carter of Fitzwilliam, N. H. He was a surveyor, conveyancer and Trial Justice.

21 ii. *Daniels*, b. Jan. 18, 1824.+

22 iii. *William Franklin*, b. Dec. 28, 1825; d. Jan. 13, 1827.

23 iv. *Laura Maria*, b. March 13, 1829; md. May 12, 1846, George Lewis of Winchendon.

24 v. *Lyman*, b. Dec. 28, 1830; md. Emeline Thompson; resides in Everett.

25 vi. *Georgianna*, b. April 30, 1833; d. Aug. 28, 1859.

(21) DANIELS ELLIS has been actively engaged in the manufacture of lumber and wood ware and is now employed in farming and as a merchant at North Ashburnham. He md. June 23, 1850, Harriet L. Perry of Concord, Vt., b. Jan. 19, 1824.

26 I. *Charles D.*, b. Jan. 22, 1851; md. Oct. 11, 1876, Ada M. Fletcher, dau. of Joshua Fletcher, *q. v.*; reside in Gardner.

27 II. *Jennie L.*, b. Aug. 23, 1858; md. Aug. 23, 1883, John W. Griswold, adopted son of Apollos Griswold, *q. v.*

1 ENOS EMORY was b. in Rindge Oct. 23, 1791. He was the youngest son of John and Elizabeth (Perkins) Emory who removed from Topsfield to Rindge 1771. Enos Emory md. April 22, 1817, Zipporah Hale, b. Dec. 12, 1789, dau. of David and Bathsheba (Barker) Hale of Rindge. He was a manufacturer of spice boxes, and resided in Keene, N. H., and in Groton until 1833, when he removed to Lane Village in this town, where he was engaged in the manufacture of lumber and wood ware. His wife d. of small-pox Sept. 14, 1848; he d. Feb. 20, 1867.

2 I. *Mary J.*, b. Jan. 23, 1818; md. George E. Lane, son of Elias Lane, *q. v.*

3 II. *William H.*, b. March 27, 1821; md. June 11, 1856, Mary A. Lane, dau. of John Lane, *q. v.*; resides in this town.

4 III. *Charles H.*, b. March 29, 1823; md. Oct. 11, 1848, Eliza M. Lane, dau. of Elias Lane, *q. v.* Resides in Fitchburg. He is a machinist.

5 1. Lizzie M., b. June 28, 1857.

6 IV. *Pascal P.*, b. July 21, 1825; md. Nov. 27, 1850, Marilla J. Lane, dau. of Elias Lane, *q. v.* They reside in Springfield.

7 1. Etta E., b. Sept. 2, 1856; d. Nov. 3, 1878.

8 2. Flora J., b. April 17, 1861; d. Aug. 9, 1861.

9 3. Carrie J., b. Feb. 23, 1863.

FAIRBANKS.

JONATHAN FAIRBANK, with his wife Grace (Lee) and six children came from Somerby, Parish of West Riding, County of Yorkshire, England, about the year 1630, and settled in Dedham. He is supposed to be the ancestor of all of his name in this country. Richard, a brother of Jonathan,

came over at the same time, and was for a time postmaster in Boston, but is not known to have left any descendants. The Fairbank's mansion, near the centre of Dedham, built by Jonathan in 1636, still remains in a good state of preservation, and has never gone out of the family, and is said to be the oldest house in America. The town of Dedham granted a tract of land to Jonathan, 15th of 7 mo., 1641.

Jonathan d. at Dedham Dec. 5, 1668. His will, June 1, 1668, bequeaths the home place to his eldest son John. George, the second son, settled in the south part of Sherborn (now Medway) and is the ancestor of the families in St. Johnsbury, Vt.

Jonas, the third son settled in Lancaster, and had a numerous posterity in Lancaster, Harvard, Sterling and West Boylston, and is the ancestor of the Ashburnham families. Jonathan, the youngest son, settled in Dedham.

In the early records the name is sometimes Fairbank, and sometimes Fairbanks. The early name in England is said to have been Fairchild, and in Scotland Fairbairn.

Jonas Fairbanks, son of Jonathan and Grace (Lee) Fairbanks, settled in Lancaster about 1658, and signed the Covenant March 7, 1659. He md. March 28, 1658, Lydia Prescott, dau. of John Prescott of Lancaster. This is the first marriage recorded in Lancaster. They had seven children. Jonas the father was killed by the Indians, Feb. 10, 1676, and his widow md. Elias Barrow of Watertown. Lieut. Jabez Fairbanks is supposed to be the only son of Jonas and Lydia (Prescott) Fairbanks who left any sons. He was b. Nov. 8, 1670. His first wife Mary d. 1718; he md. (2d) March 25, 1719, Elizabeth Whitcomb who d. May 11, 1775, aged 80. He d. 1758, aged 88. Dea. Joseph Fairbanks, son of Lieut. Jabez and Mary Fairbanks, was b. in Lancaster 1694. He md. April 21, 1718, Mary Brown of Lancaster. Four of their sons left children, and a granddaughter was the wife of Daniel Knight of Ashburnham. Dea. Joseph Fairbanks d. Dec. 6, 1772, aged 78; his widow d. Nov. 14, 1791, aged 91 years 11 months. Capt. Joseph Fairbanks, son of Dea. Joseph and Mary (Brown) Fairbanks, was b. in Lancaster, now Harvard, Nov. 4, 1723. He md. Mary Willard of Lancaster. Their daughter, Anna, md. Ebenezer Burgess of Ashburnham. His wife d. Aug. 26, 1748, aged 25. He md. (2d) Abigail Hodgman of Groton. Among their nine children b. in Harvard, was Cyrus Fairbanks who removed to Ashburnham, and is No. 1 in the following register. Dea. Amos Fairbanks, another son of Dea. Joseph and Mary (Brown) Fairbanks, was b. in Harvard 1738. He was a farmer and a blacksmith in Harvard. His first wife Lucy d. Nov. 12, 1767, aged 28; he md. (2d) Rhoda Sawyer who d. Feb. 23, 1813, aged 72; he d. Jan. 14, 1809, aged 71. Dea. Noah Fairbanks, son of Dea. Amos and Rhoda (Sawyer) Fairbanks, was b. in Harvard May 21, 1771. He md. Hannah Whitcomb of Boxborough and in 1806 removed to Gardner. He was a farmer and a miller. He d. 1852, aged 81. Among the nine children of Dea. Amos and Hannah (Whitcomb) Fairbanks were Emory, Asaph and Joel who have resided in Ashburnham, and are named in the following register. Dea. Amos Fairbanks of Gardner was a cousin of Cyrus Fairbanks of Ashburnham.

1 CYRUS FAIRBANKS, son of Capt. Joseph and Abigail (Hodgman) Fairbanks was b. in Harvard May 17, 1752. He served in the Revolution and was the last of the pensioners in this town. He md. Aug. 25, 1779, Mercy Hale of Stowe, b. Feb. 7, 1756, and removed to this town in 1788. A part of the time at least between 1815 and 1820 he resided in Troy, N. H., but subsequently he lived in this town, where he d. June 18, 1852, aged 100 years; his wife d. 1840.

2 I. *Sally*, b. Aug. 8, 1780; md. Joseph Gibbs, *q. v.*; md. (2d) Nov. 19, 1835, Lewis Hill of Chester, Vt. She d. April 14, 1857.
3 II. *Jacob*, b. March 17, 1782.+
4 III. *Mercy*, b. Oct. 7, 1784; md. Walter Russell Adams, *q. v.*
5 IV. *Cyrus*, b. Nov. 17, 1786.+
6 V. *Abigail*, b. Feb. 24, 1789; md. Aug. 28, 1806, Leonard Patch; md. (2d) Walter Russell Adams, *q. v.*
7 VI. *Artemas*, b. May 26, 1791; d. unmd. in Troy, N. H., Aug. 27, 1863.
8 VII. *Betsey*, b. April 10, 1796; md. Amos Rice, b. Feb. 5, 1797, son of Samuel Rice of Ashby. They removed to the State of New York.

(3) JACOB FAIRBANKS, son of Cyrus Fairbanks, was b. in Harvard March 17, 1782. He md. May 25, 1808, Lydia Phillips, b. April 19, 1784, dau. of Seth and Elizabeth (Hamlin) Phillips of Fitchburg and a cousin of Hon. Hannibal Hamlin of Maine. He was a farmer and a citizen of good repute. He d. Jan. 21, 1850; she d. Jan. 22, 1852.

9 I. *Laura Olivia*, b. March 11, 1809; md. Emery Rice, *q. v.*
10 II. *Europe Hamlin*, b. Sept. 14, 1810.+
11 III. *Seth Phillips*, b. March 11, 1812.+
12 IV. *Sherman Dexter*, b. Jan. 6, 1814.
13 V. *Lydia Harriet*, b. April 10, 1816; md. Jacob V. Ward, son of Jacob Ward, *q. v.*
14 VI. *Mercy Elizabeth*, b. April 18, 1818; md. Joseph B. Woods, son of Asa Woods, *q. v.*
15 VII. *Caroline Ardelia*, b. Feb. 22, 1820; md. Nov. 2, 1843, Artemas R. Smith, b. in Rindge June 16, 1814, son of Henry and Asenath (Rand) Smith. He was successfully engaged in business in Fitchburg, where he d.

16 1. Margaret Lydia, b. April 4, 1850; md. Dec. 23, 1874, Edgar R. Ray of Franklin, Mass.
17 2. Ralph Hamlin, b. Feb. 19, 1855; d. March 23, 1863.
18 3. Gertrude Elizabeth, b. Nov. 14, 1860.

19 VIII. *Sarah Dwelly*, b. July 11, 1822; d. unmd. June 13, 1847.

20 IX. *Jacob Horatio*, b. Sept. 7, 1826; md. June 2, 1858, Margaret Emma Ferson; he is a farmer and has been engaged in the grain and iron trade in Fitchburg, where he resides.

21 1. Emma Isabel, b. Jan. 14, 1863; d. July 25, 1863.

22 X. *Albert Porter*, b. March 17, 1829; d. unmd. Nov. 14, 1851.

(5) CYRUS FAIRBANKS md. July 3, 1817, Betsey Jackson of Westminster. About the date of his marriage he removed to Troy, N. H., where he d. Nov. 23, 1861; she d. April 29, 1868.

23 I. *Eliza*, b. March 22, 1818; md. Ranson Ingalls; she d. Aug. 15, 1857.

24 II. *Silas H.*, b. Dec. 7, 1819; md. Catherine (Woods) Aldrich, dau. of Asa Woods, *q. v.*; removed to Jaffrey 1856, where he d. Oct. 24, 1858. Their son, Arthur Walter, b. Aug. 24, 1857, is a druggist in Providence, R. I.

25 III. *Mary Ann*, b. Dec. 3, 1822; md. July 9, 1844, Edward P. Kimball, Esq., b. in Hillsboro', N. H., Feb. 23, 1819; he resides in Troy, N. H., where he has been a merchant since 1842. He was postmaster eight years, sheriff of Cheshire County 1874–5, and deputy-sheriff many years.

26 IV. *George*, b. Oct. 22, 1825; md. Abbie Wright who d. Aug. 27, 1848; md. (2d) Nancy Watkins; she d. July 27, 1858; md. (3d) Oct. 26, 1859, Marietta S. French; resides in Jaffrey, N. H.

27 V. *Charles*, b. March 15, 1827; d. June 18, 1843.

28 VI. *Walter A.*, b. Jan. 5, 1830; md. Aug. 4, 1864, Mary J. Nourse; resides in Fitchburg.

29 VII. *Sarah W.*, b. May 8, 1832; md. June 28, 1865, Daniel H. Sawyer of Keene, N. H.

30 VIII. *Caroline A.*, b. June 6, 1836; md. Nov. 24, 1863, Dr. Daniel Farrar; he was an esteemed physician in Leominster; he d. June 3, 1875; his widow resides in Leominster.

(10) EUROPE H. FAIRBANKS md. Oct. 2, 1833, Sally E. Crehore, dau. of Col. Timothy Crehore, *q. v.* They resided in Ashburnham until 1869, when they removed to Worcester; now reside in Fitchburg.

31 I. *Henry Augustus*, b. May 12, 1838.

32 II. *Herbert Hamlin*, b. Sept. 16, 1846.
33 III. *Herbert Lewis*, b. Jan. 13, 1848.
34 IV. *Albert Phillips*.

(11) SETH P. FAIRBANKS resided in the Central Village. He md. Oct. 27, 1836, Almira Fairbanks, dau. of Ithamar Fairbanks, *q. v.*; she d. Jan. 7, 1848. He md. (2d) Nov. 30, 1848, Charlotte E. Brown, dau. of Joel and Lucy (Stearns) Brown of Lowell. He d. March 1, 1886.

35 I. *Charles Lewis*, b. Dec. 12, 1839; md. Aug. 30, 1866, S. Augusta Deane, b. Feb. 3, 1839, dau. of Charles P. and Anna F. (Carter) Deane of Fitchburg. They reside in Fitchburg. For several years he was engaged in the Hardware and Iron trade, and now in the Coal trade.

36 II. *Ellen Almira*, b. Oct. 16, 1841; md. April 8, 1868, Rodney King, b. March 26, 1837, son of Rodney King of Dover, Vt. They reside in Central Village.

37 III. *Albert Willis*, b. Sept. 5, 1846; d. Aug. 10, 1847.
38 IV. *Harriet Elizabeth*, b. Jan. 4, 1850; d. May 7, 1867.

39 V. *Frank Everett*, b. Dec. 9, 1857; md. May 1, 1880, Z. Irene Warren, dau. of Thomas and Zilpah (Merritt) Warren of Whitingham, Vt. They reside in Fitchburg.

40 VI. *Adalaide Ellsworth*, b. Aug. 1, 1861; graduated from Cushing Academy 1880; now bookkeeper for Wilbur F. Whitney.

41 EMORY FAIRBANKS, son of Dea. Noah and Hannah (Whitcomb) Fairbanks of Gardner, was b. in Harvard May 15, 1800. He md. 1829, Eunice Haywood of Boxborough, and in the spring of 1830 he purchased the farm of Oliver Marble and removed to this town. He was a man of excellent character and was justly held in high esteem. He d. March 2, 1871; she d. Sept. 21, 1865.

42 I. *Emory Hayward*, b. Oct. 30, 1829; md. 1857, Julia Bacon of Sutton; md. (2d) 1864, Laura Coolidge of Sherburn; resides at Jamaica Plain. He is a jeweller.

43 II. *Andrew Stevens*, b. Jan. 30, 1832; d. Aug. 12, 1835.

44 III. *Francis Joel*, b. Sept. 8, 1835; md. May 1, 1865, Abbie S. Russell, dau. of Philemon Russell, *q. v.* He is a Congregational clergyman. *Vide* page 506. Five children.

45 iv. *James Henry*, b. May 15, 1837; md. 1861, Josephine E. Brewer of Framingham. He is a jeweller in Fitchburg.

46 v. *Eunice Elizabeth*, b. Feb. 14, 1839; md. 1857, Hosea F. Lane of Templeton, son of Francis Lane, Jr., *q. v.*

47 vi. *Joseph Whitcomb*, b. March 26, 1841; md. Jan. 1, 1869, Ellen Cutting of Templeton. *Vide* page 506. He is a tutor at St. Paul, Minn.

48 vii. *Susan Augusta*, b. April 14, 1843; md. Charles E. Woodward, *q. v.*

49 viii. *Luey Ann*, b. Dec. 8, 1846; md. Jan. 9, 1875, George N. Ells of Norwalk, Conn.

50 ix. *Laura Amelia*, b. Oct. 30, 1848; d. April 29, 1855.

51 Asaph Fairbanks, a brother of Emory Fairbanks, was b. March 3, 1804. He md. Hannah Whitcomb of Boxborough, and removed to this town about 1830, where he continued to reside until 1837, when he removed to Shelburne Falls, and subsequently to Iowa, where he d. Nov. 12, 1855. Three children.

52 i. *Asaph Waldo.*

53 ii. *Joel Whitcomb.*

54 iii. *Martha Malvina.*

55 Joel Fairbanks, a brother of Emory and Asaph Fairbanks, was b. in Gardner, July 17, 1814. He md. Esther Leland. He resided in Ashburnham several years. He was a mechanic and for a few years he was engaged in the manufacture of chairs. He now resides in Templeton. No children.

56 Ithamar Fairbanks, b. March 2, 1767, md. Jerusha Williams, b. Feb. 22, 1769. He was not closely allied in kinship to the other families of Fairbanks in this town. They removed to Ashburnham with four children in 1795. He lived in the west part of the town. About 1813 he removed to Fitchburg where he d. Sept. 20, 1847. She d. Aug. 28, 1847.

57 i. *Sally Williams*, b. Aug. 7, 1789.

58 ii. *Jerusha Williams*, b. Nov. 21, 1790.

59 iii. *Sophia*, b. April 4, 1793.

60 iv. *Ebenezer Williams*, b. Dec. 16, 1794; d. in Dalton, Nov. 9, 1869.

61 v. *Mary Curtis*, b. Sept. 16, 1796.

62 VI. *Elijah Williams*, b. Dec., 1797; d. July 13, 1799.
63 VII. *Eliza*, b. Oct. 19, 1799; d. Aug. 1, 1818.
64 VIII. *Elijah Williams*, b. March 16, 1801; d. in Dayton, O., June 2, 1871.
65 IX. *Moses*, b. June 28, 1803; d. in Fitchburg July 23, 1874.
66 X. *Joseph Warren*, b. Aug. 13, 1805; d. Feb. 10, 1827.
67 XI. *Charles Lewis*, b. Jan. 15, 1808; d. in Utica, N. Y., July 25, 1843.
68 XII. *Almira*, b. Nov. 15, 1810; md. Seth P. Fairbanks, *q. v.*

1 JOHN FARRAR, b. April 15, 1784, son of Jacob Farrar of Concord, md. Dec. 20, 1810, Calle Stearns, dau. of William Stearns, *q. v.*; she d. March 26, 1843, leaving eight children; he md. (2d) March 13, 1844, Lucy Houghton, dau. of Robert and Sarah (Jones) Houghton of Leominster and Winchendon. He resided several years in this town, in Stoddard, N. H., and in Winchendon where he d. Jan. 25, 1859.

2 I. *Eliza Caroline*, b. Oct. 21, 1811; md. June 25, 1825, Oliver Brooks, son of Stephen Brooks; reside in Denmark, Iowa.
3 II. *George L.*, b. Oct. 3, 1813; md. June 5, 1838, Sophronia M. George; resided in Winchendon; d. April 13, 1882.
4 III. *Charlotte*, b. Nov. 27, 1816; md. Henry Tuckerman, *q. v.*
5 IV. *Roxanna*, b. April 18, 1821; md. April 14, 1840; md. (2d) April 21, 1842, Abraham Bowden; lived in Lowell; she resides, his widow, in Denmark, Iowa.
6 V. *Maria*, b. Sept. 16, 1823; md. Aug. 28, 1845, Ezekiel Bartlett; he d. Oct. 3, 1851; md. (2d) Nov. 15, 1853, Amasa Mills, who d. May 13, 1854; md. (3d) July 23, 1857, Rev. Oliver Emerson, who d. Nov. 10, 1863; she resides at Grinnell, Iowa.
7 VI. *Susan*, b. June 24, 1826; md. Sept. 30, 1846, Eliphalet S. Wood, *q. v.*
8 VII. *Lydia*, b. Sept. 28, 1828; md. July 1, 1852, George L. Beals, *q. v.*
9 VIII. *Calla*, b. Oct. 8, 1830; md. Edwin H. Ely; resides in Cleveland, Ohio.

1 ABEL FARWELL, son of Dea. Abel Farwell of Fitchburg, resided in this town nearly twenty years. He md. Aug. 27, 1835, Myra Ward, dau. of Caleb Ward, *q. v.*; removed to Fitchburg.

2 I. *Abel Stephen*, b. Jan. 8, 1836; md. Elsie A. Howe, dau. of Addison Howe, *q. v.*; resides in Fitchburg.
3 II. *Elizabeth Davis*, b. May 26, 1837.
4 III. *Ivers Warren*, b. Jan. 26, 1839; is in Montana Territory.
5 IV. *George Goodyear*, b. Nov. 7, 1840; d. in the civil war.
6 V. *Levi Caleb*, b. April 11, 1843.
7 VI. *Samuel Ward*, b. May 31, 1845.
8 VII. *Austin*.
9 VIII. *Lelia*.

1 DEA. SAMUEL FELLOWS removed from Harvard to this town in 1762. He was much employed in town affairs, and beginning with the act of incorporation he was moderator of nearly every meeting while he remained in this town, and frequently was elected to other office. He was a deacon of the church, and receives honorable mention in the civil and ecclesiastical records. The name of his wife was Eunice. He removed to Shelburne 1772. Their nine children were b. in Harvard.

2 I. *Eunice*, b. May 26, 1736; md. Daniel Merrill, *q. v.*
3 II. *Samuel*, b. Feb. 13, 1739. Came to Ashburnham with his father; with wife Mary he removed to Shelburne 1771.
4 III. *Joseph*, b. May 27, 1748.
5 IV. *Thomas*, b. Oct. 13, 1750.
6 V. *Sarah* (twin), b. Oct. 13, 1750; md. Jeremiah Foster, Jr., *q. v.*
7 VI. *John*, b. May 11, 175–; record defaced.
8 VII. *William*, b. Oct. 5, 1758.
9 VIII. *Willis* (twin), b. Oct. 5, 1758.
10 IX. *Solomon*, b. Dec. 5, 1760.

1 JOHN FINAN, a native of Staffordshire, Eng., md. Rosena Hare, dau. of Patrick Hare, and came to Ashburnham 1850. He served a year and a half in First Regiment of Cavalry. Six children were b. in this town.

2 I. *John*, b. June 9, 1853; md. Mary J. Eggleston; resides in Leominster.
3 II. *James*, b. Feb. 11, 1856; resides in Ashburnham.
4 III. *Thomas*, b. Feb. 7, 1858; resides in Boston.
5 IV. *Mary Ann*, b. March 31, 1860.
6 V. *Elizabeth*, b. May 31, 1862.
7 VI. *George*, b. July 7, 1864; resides in Ashburnham.

FISHER.

There were two or three families of Fishers in this town near the close of the past century. The name occurs a number of times in the records of the choice of town officers. The births of their children are not recorded and little information can be gleaned of them. The wife of John Kiblinger, Jr., was Betty Fisher.

1 LEVI FISHER md. June 2, 1777, Rebecca Wheeler of Templeton. Rebecca at the time of marriage had a son from which it is inferred she was a widow. They left town a few years later.

2 TIMOTHY FISHER resided here several years and removed immediately preceding 1787. There is no record of his marriage. Three children were bap.

3 I. *Timothy*, bap. May 3, 1779.
4 II. *George*, bap. May 20, 1781.
5 III. *Asa*, bap. June 6, 1784.

FLETCHER.

The common ancestor of the Fletcher families of Ashburnham was Robert Fletcher an English emigrant who settled in Concord 1630. He was a wealthy and influential citizen. He d. at the age of 85 years April 3, 1677. William Fletcher, the second of the five children of Robert, was b. in England 1622, and was admitted freeman May 10, 1643. He md. Oct. 7, 1645, Lydia Bates, and in 1653 he removed to Chelmsford, becoming one of the early settlers of that place. He acquired a large tract of real estate including a large part of the city of Lowell. He d. Nov. 6, 1677; his widow d. Oct. 12, 1704. He left eight children of whom the eldest son was Joshua Fletcher, b. March 30, 1648, admitted freeman March 11, 1689. He md. May 4, 1668, Grissies Jewell; she d. Jan. 16, 1682; he md. (2d) July 18, 1682, Sarah Willey. He lived in Chelmsford, where he d. Nov. 21, 1713. Paul Fletcher, a son of Joshua and Grissies (Jewell) Fletcher, was b. about 1681; resided in Chelmsford and served in the Indian War in 1724. Ebenezer Fletcher, youngest son of Paul, md. Aug. 8, 1754, Joanna Stearns, b. July 29, 1724, dau. of Lieut. John and Esther (Johnson) Stearns of Billerica. He removed to Westford. Among his seven children is Josiah Fletcher who is number 1 in the following register.

Another son of Joshua Fletcher by his second wife, Sarah Willey, was Capt. Joseph Fletcher who was b. in Chelmsford June 10, 1689. He md. Nov. 17, 1712, Sarah Adams of Concord. He resided in Westford and was a man of influence and held in high esteem. He d. Oct. 4, 1772. Among the ten children of Capt. Joseph Fletcher was Capt. Pelatiah who was b. in Westford May 3, 1727. He md. Jan. 13, 1757, Dorothy Hildreth, dau. of James and Dorothy Hildreth of Westford; she d. June 14, 1782, and he md. (2d) Betty (Hartwell) Keyes. He d. in Westford Feb. 23, 1807. Pelatiah, the sixth of the twelve children of Capt. Pelatiah and Dorothy (Hildreth) Fletcher, became a resident of Ashburnham and is number 11 in the following register.

Dea. Joshua Fletcher, a brother of Capt. Pelatiah and a son of Capt. Joseph Fletcher, was b. Nov. 20, 1731. He md. 1755, Elizabeth Raymond and resided in Westford. He d. June 10, 1783. Among their nine children

was Joshua Fletcher who removed to Ashburnham and is number 23 in the following register, and Patty the wife of Grant Houston. Another son of Dea. Joshua and Elizabeth (Raymond) Fletcher was Lyman Fletcher who md. 1794, Lois Gates, dau. of Henry Gates, and resided a short time in this town.

1 JOSIAH FLETCHER, b. July 7, 1757, son of Ebenezer and Joanna (Stearns) Fletcher, md. April 9, 1786, Abigail Fletcher and the same year removed to the southeast part of this town; where he resided until his death Feb. 6, 1817. His widow was a resident of this town in 1823. Eight children.

2 I. *Joshua*, b. Jan. 31, 1787; d. Oct. 2, 1794.

3 II. *Josiah*, b. Dec. 20, 1788; md. Sept. 19, 1815, Deborah Cushing, dau. of David Cushing, *q. v.* They removed from this town previous to 1820. One child was b. in Ashburnham.

4 1. Deborah Maria, b. July 7, 1816.

5 III. *Elizabeth*, b. April 20, 1791; md. April 24, 1816, Joshua Fletcher Reed. They buried a child in this town 1818 and another 1819. The date of his death is unknown. She md. (2d) 1823, John Fenno of Rindge.

6 IV. *Timothy*, b. Feb. 9, 1794; md. Jan., 1819, Cynthia Parker of New Ipswich. They resided a short time in this town. An infant d. Nov. 21, 1819.

7 V. *Joshua*, b. March 7, 1796.

8 VI. *Isaac*, b. June 4, 1798.

9 VII. *Infant*, b. 1800; d. Aug. 19, 1801.

10 VIII. *Abigail*, b. July 17, 1802; md. Dec. 6, 1817, Salmon Snow; she md. (2d) 1821, Aaron Barton of New Ipswich.

11 PELATIAH FLETCHER, son of Capt. Pelatiah and Dorothy (Hildreth) Fletcher, was b. April 4, 1767; he md. Dec. 5, 1785, Patty Keyes, dau. of Jonathan Keyes of Westford; she d. Dec. 9, 1786. At this date he removed to this town; he md. (2d) Sept. 22, 1788, Sally Woodward of Westford and after a residence in this town of about ten years he removed to Groton; he md. (3d) June 2, 1803, widow Beulah (Buttrick) Heywood, widow of Levi Heywood of Winchendon. He d. in Westford May 7, 1811; she d. May 18, 1814. In this family were eleven children who have filled honorable positions in life. Except in childhood none have resided in this town.

12 I. *Joel*, b. Feb. 23, 1786.

13 II. *Patty*, b. June 28, 1789; md. April 9, 1807, Jacob Osgood, b. in Westford 1787, son of Col. Benjamin and Tryphena (Cummings) Osgood. They resided in Westford and among their children was Patty Osgood, wife of Samuel S. Stevens, *q. v.*

14 III. *Sally* (twin), b. June 28, 1789.

15 IV. *Wiley*, b. Feb. 7, 1791.

16 V. *Samuel*, b. March 2, 1792.

17 VI. *Timothy*, b. Nov. 28, 1795; lived in Charlestown.

18 VII. *Calvin*, b. Feb. 20, 1797; lived in Groton.

19 VIII. *Harriet*, b. July 31, 1800; md. Nathan S. Hamblin.

20 IX. *Mary*, b. June 25, 1803; md. Thomas Richardson.

21 X. *Pelatiah*, b. June 27, 1804.

22 XI. *Lucy*, b. Sept. 10, 1806; md. Abel Stevens.

23 JOSHUA FLETCHER, son of Joshua and Elizabeth (Raymond) Fletcher, was b. in Westford Feb. 22, 1760. While a resident of his native town he was a soldier in the Revolution. *Vide* page 208. He md. April 20, 1815, Lucy Jones, dau. of Enos Jones, *q. v.*, and soon after that date he removed to Ashburnham, where he resided until his death April 14, 1843. His widow d. in Rindge Dec. 21, 1850.

24 I. *Mary E.*, b. May 1, 1816; md. April 18, 1844, Dea. Joseph Wetherbee, *q. v.*

25 II. *Hannah*, b. Nov. 16, 1817; d. Oct. 1, 1839.

26 III. *Joshua*, b. Aug. 27, 1820; md. April 24, 1846, Emeline Stimson, dau. of Edward Stimson, *q. v.* She d. Sept. 16, 1847, leaving a dau. who d. young. He md. (2d) April 14, 1852, Mrs. Frances (Partridge) Sampson. She d. May 13, 1876; he md. (3d) Jan. 25, 1881. Mrs. Delia A. (West) Cross of Bradford, N. H. He is a farmer, resided in Rindge until 1882, when he removed to Jaffrey, N. H. Eight children were b. in Rindge.

27 1. Emeline F., b. Jan. 15, 1853; d. March 18, 1854.

28 2. Arthur J., b. Feb. 22, 1855; d. April 27, 1855.

29 3. Ada Maria, b. June 24, 1856; md. Charles D. Ellis, son of Daniels Ellis, *q. v.*

30 4. Walter Irving, b. Jan. 28, 1858; md. Nov. 2, 1881, Agnes Washburn of Natick.

31 5. Winslow Ordway, b. March 15, 1859; md. May 31, 1886, Etta Elliot (Lawrence 71).

32 6. William Frederick, b. June 9, 1861.
33 7. Myrtilla Ines, b. Feb. 4, 1864, a teacher in the public schools of Ashburnham.
34 8. Edwin C., b. Aug. 25, 1866.

1 EBENEZER FLINT, son of Edmund and Abigail (Damon) Flint, was b. in Ashby May 31, 1788. He was a farmer and resided in this town from 1813 until his death Dec. 3, 1835. He md. Jan. 12, 1813, Emma Wilder, b. Aug. 5, 1793, dau. of Samuel and Hannah (Lasel) Wilder of Hingham. She was a niece of the wife of Thomas Hobart; she d. Nov. 25, 1856.

2 I. *Emma H.*, b. March 11, 1814; md. Charles H. Barrett, *q. v.*

3 EDWARD S. FLINT, son of Thomas and Betsey (Keyes) Flint of Westford and a grandson of Henry Flint of Carlisle, was b. in Westford Sept. 2, 1817. For many years he was engaged in the manufacture of chairs at South Ashburnham. He is one of the Board of Selectmen and in 1855 he represented the district in the Legislature. He md. June 5, 1845, Betsey C. Glazier, dau. of John C. Glazier, *q. v.*

4 I. *Mary Elizabeth*, b. Jan. 13, 1847; d. March 7, 1852.
5 II. *Julia Evangeline*, b. June 3, 1862; d. Sept. 25, 1863.
6 III. *Helen Eliece*, b. Dec. 2, 1865.

FOSTER.

The numerous families of Foster in Ashburnham, whose names appear in the following record, are descended from Reginald Foster, an English emigrant, who settled in Ipswich about 1638 and was one of the earliest inhabitants of that town. His name occasionally appears in the early records and in a connection that presents him as an active and useful citizen who bore a full share of the burdens of the settlement. In 1645 he was a subscriber to the fund for the payment of Maj. Dennison who was in command of the military force of that vicinity. In 1652 the settlement granted Reginald Foster and Thomas Clark £10 "for cutting a passage from this river into Chebacco river of ten feet wide and soe deepe as a lighter may pass through laden." In 1658 for £50 he bought of Roger Preston a considerable tract of land with buildings. The name of his wife was Judith; their five sons and two daughters were b. in England. His wife d. 1664 and the following year he md. Sarah Martin, widow of John Martin. The date of his death is not known, but his will was probated June 9, 1681. Jacob Foster, son of Reginald, was b. in England 1635. He resided in Ipswich and was a deacon of the church. He md. Jan. 12, 1658-9, Martha Kinsman who d. Oct. 15, 1666; he md. (2d) Feb. 26, 1666-7, Abigail Lord, dau. of Robert and Mary (Wait) Lord, who survived him and d. June 4, 1729; he d.

June 9, 1710. His grave in Ipswich is marked by a stone monument. There were five children by the first and nine by the second marriage. Abraham Foster, the sixth child and the eldest child by the second marriage, was b. in Ipswich Dec. 4, 1667; by his first wife Abigail who d. Oct. 8, 1732, there were nine children. He was a carpenter in Ipswich, where he d. Dec. 25, 1720-1.

1 JEREMIAH FOSTER, a son of Abraham and Abigail Foster and of the fourth generation from Reginald Foster the emigrant, was b. in Ipswich about 1710. In this line of descent he was the first to leave the town of Ipswich the home of his ancestors. He md. 1735, Ruth Metcalf, and in 1743 he removed to Harvard and ten years later he settled in Ashburnham on land west of Lake Naukeag still known as Foster Hill. *Vide* page 91. He was a man of exemplary character, reserved in manner, industrious, honest, a kind neighbor and an excellent citizen. He d. Dec. 12, 1788; his wife d. Feb. 6, 1776. Four children b. in Ipswich and two in Harvard.

2 I. *Jeremiah*, bap. Aug. 8, 1736; d. young.
3 II. *Abigail*, bap. Feb. 17, 1737-8.
4 III. *Jeremiah*, bap. Jan. 6, 1739-40.+
5 IV. *Samuel*, bap. Jan. 8, 1741-2.+
6 V. *Judith*, b. March 15, 1747; md. Dr. Peter Brooks, *q. v.*
7 VI. *Rebecca*, b. Oct. 20, 1750; md. Caleb Ward, *q. v.*

(4) JEREMIAH FOSTER, JR., md. Oct. 29, 1765, Sarah Fellows, dau. of Dea. Samuel Fellows, *q. v.* They resided in Ashburnham until 1773, when they removed to Shelburne. Three children were b. in this town.

8 I. *Sarah*, b. Aug. 10, 1766.
9 II. *Amos*, b. Oct. 13, 1768.
10 III. *Nathan*, b. Nov. 27, 1771.

(5) SAMUEL FOSTER was a worthy and influential citizen. His name is frequently and honorably named in the records, and many incidents in his life may be gleaned from the early part of this volume. He md. July 6, 1769, Susanna Wood, b. April 14, 1750, dau. of Bennett and Lydia (Law) Wood of Littleton, and a sister of the wife of Capt. Deliverance Davis. He d., says Mr. Cushing, "of bilious colic terminating in a fever," April 15, 1793; she d. Oct. 31, 1839.

11 I. *Abraham*, b. April 8, 1770.+
12 II. *Nathaniel*, b. Dec. 26, 1771.+

13 III. *Jeremiah Bennett*, b. Oct. 11, 1773; resided in this town; d. unmd. Aug. 3, 1846.
14 IV. *Samuel*, b. Feb. 9, 1776.+
15 V. *Hosea*, b. Aug. 1, 1778; md. Dec. 8, 1803, Molly Joslin, and removed to Verona, N. Y. He d. Feb. 23, 1855. Four children.
16 VI. *Joel*, b. Aug. 21, 1780.+
17 VII. *Amos*, b. Nov. 16, 1782; d. unmd. Sept. 21, 1812.
18 VIII. *Obadiah*, b. Oct. 25, 1786. July 15, 1809, his intentions of marriage to Deborah Willard were published. He d. July 24, 1809.
19 IX. *Susanna*, b. Sept. 25, 1789; md. Francis Lane, Jr., *q. v.*
20 X. *Dorothy*, b. Nov. 25, 1793; md. Ezekiel Metcalf, *q. v.*

(11) ABRAHAM FOSTER, son of Samuel, md. Jan. 26, 1792, Sarah Willard, dau. of Dea. John Willard. He was a blacksmith and a farmer, residing where Michael Coughlin now resides. His wife d. July 24, 1831; he md. (2d) Jan. 1, 1837, Mary T. Davis, dau. of Ebenezer Bennett Davis. He d. Nov., 1837; his widow d. April 29, 1853.

21 I. *Sarah*, b. Oct. 17, 1792.
22 II. *John W.*, b. May 12, 1794.
23 III. *Abigail*, b. July 6, 1796.
24 IV. *Lucinda*, b. June 9, 1798.
25 V. *Sophia*, b. Sept. 21, 1800.
26 VI. *Abraham*, b. July 14, 1802.
27 VII. *Harriet Willard*, b. June 16, 1805.
28 VIII. *Elijah Willard*, b. Oct. 8, 1807; md. Tryphena Lovewell, and resided in Gardner. Eight children.
29 IX. *Mary J.*, b. June 20, 1810.

(12) NATHANIEL FOSTER, son of Samuel, md. Jan. 11, 1795, Hepsibeth Cutting, dau. of Samuel Cutting, *q. v.* He was a farmer in the northwest part of the town and conducted a saw-mill. Until the death of another Nathaniel Foster, he was styled Nathaniel Foster, Jr. He d. Sept. 30, 1826.

30 I. *Rhoda*, b. Dec. 15, 1795; md. Nov. 23, 1820, Asa Smith of Gardner. She d. Oct. 30, 1821, leaving a son.

31 1. Asa F., b. Oct. 20, 1821; md. Fidelia Jackson.

32 II. *Hepsibeth*, b. Oct. 13, 1797; d. Dec. 14, 1809.
33 III. *Samuel*, b. July 28, 1799.+
34 IV. *Emma*, b. Sept. 3, 1801; d. young.
35 V. *Emma*, b. Dec. 29, 1803; md. Thomas Bennett, *q. v.*
36 VI. *Eunice*, b. ———; md. Henry Carter of Leominster; four children.
37 VII. *Nancy*, b. ———; md. Metaphor Kendall of Leominster; she d. 1843, leaving five children.
38 VIII. *Mary*, b. 1807; md. Stillman D. Benjamin, *q. v.*
39 IX. *Adaline*, b. Sept. 30, 1809; md. Sept. 11, 1832, Albert Lamb of Leominster.
40 X. *Elvira F.*, b. ———; md. Stephen Dodge of Leominster.
41 XI. *Leonard*, b. April 14, 1814.+

(14) SAMUEL FOSTER, son of Samuel, md. Feb. 5, 1799, Lydia Stearns, dau. of William Stearns, *q. v.*, and the same year he removed to Stoddard, N. H. He was a blacksmith and a farmer. He d. April 24, 1868; she d. July 1, 1867.

42 I. *Stearns*, b. Dec. 26, 1799; md. Feb. 3, 1825, Cynthia Willson of Stoddard; she d. July 9, 1844; he md. (2d) Dec. 3, 1845, Mary Fuller of Hancock, N. H. He resided in Stoddard until 1860, when he removed to Keene, N. H., where he d. Aug. 23, 1882. Seven children.
43 II. *Lydia*, b. Aug. 22, 1801; md. Nov. 24, 1824, Dea. Luke Joslin, son of David and Rebecca (Richardson) Joslin of Stoddard, and grandson of John and Susannah (Carter) Joslin of Leominster. Dea. Joslin, in 1855, removed to Keene, N. H., where he d. June 3, 1875. Three children.
44 III. *Maria*, b. April 29, 1804; md. Nov. 4, 1823, Stephen Wood of Hancock, N. H.; he d. April 30, 1874.
45 IV. *Hosea*, b. April 13, 1806; md. Nov. 7, 1833, Mary G. Rice, dau. of Peter and Sally (Moore) Rice of Stoddard, N. H.; he resided in Stoddard, N. H., until 1868, when he removed to Keene, N. H., where he d. by accident, Feb. 7, 1872. Six children.
46 V. *Selina*, b. July 5, 1809; md. Feb. 16, 1830, Mark Bowers of Hancock, N. H. Seven children. Rev. Albert Bowers, formerly pastor Congrega-

tional church, Huntington, W. Va., now of Ruggles, O., and George Bowers, D. D. S., of Nashua, N. H., are their sons.

47 VI. *Emily*, b. Dec. 19, 1811; md. Oct. 10, 1833, Dea. Edward Hayward of Hancock. They removed 1869 to Keene, N. H., and subsequently to Hyde Park, to reside with their children. He d. Nov. 6, 1883. Seven children.

48 VII. *Samuel*, b. Nov. 29, 1815; md. Nov. 5, 1845, Mary S. Palmer. He d. in Boston, Aug. 5, 1850; she d. Sept. 25, 1846.

49 VIII. *Electa*, b. Nov. 10, 1817; d. Dec. 25, 1818.

50 IX. *Electa*, b. June 10, 1825; md. July 15, 1850, James Downing, son of James and Lydia (Ayers) Downing of Marlow, N. H. Four children.

(16) JOEL FOSTER, son of Samuel, was a valuable citizen. He was in town office several years and ably and faithfully discharged every trust. He md. 1805, Dolly Wetherbee of Boxboro', b. Feb. 21, 1774; she d. May 23, 1838; he md. (2d) April 23, 1839, Ruth Fuller, widow of Benjamin Fuller. He d. Sept. 6, 1859; she d. April 3, 1850, aged 76 years.

51 I. *Harriet*, b. Sept. 10, 1806; md. April 1, 1830, James Hayward of Ashby; she d. April 10, 1839; he md. (2d) Melinda Corey, *q. v.*

52 II. *Joel*, b. July 15, 1808; d. March 31, 1814.

53 III. *Jerome W.*, b. Dec. 15, 1810.+

54 IV. *Dorothy*, b. Sept. 6, 1813; md. June 12, 1833, Lewis G. Houghton, b. April 12, 1804, son of Elijah and Sarah Houghton of Ashby. She d. Dec. 31, 1863.

(33) SAMUEL FOSTER, son of Nathaniel, md. Dec. 15, 1825, Emeline Kibling, dau. of John Kibling, *q. v.* They resided in this town and in Fitchburg. They d. in Fitchburg.

55 I. *Sarah A.*, b. March 27, 1827.

56 II. *Charles S.*, b. June 6, 1828.

57 III. *Leonard G.*, b. Aug. 26, 1837.

58 IV. *Ellen.*

59 V. *Edwin.*

60 VI. *George.*

61 VII. *Louisa.*

(41) LEONARD FOSTER, son of Nathaniel, resides in the northwest part of the town. For many years he has been actively engaged in the manufacture of lumber and has frequently been chosen to positions in town affairs. He md. April 18, 1838, Melvina Lawrence, dau. of Capt. Moses Lawrence, *q. v.* She d. Aug. 28, 1848; md. (2d) 1850, Clarissa Cole; md. (3d) 1862, Sarah Howard.

62 I. *Waldo A.*, b. Oct. 6, 1841; md. Dec. 31, 1870, H. Elizabeth Chandler. He was in the employ of the Fitchburg Railroad several years. Resides in Fitchburg.

63 II. *Jennie A.*, b. Sept. 6, 1839; md. Webster Maynard of Winchendon; she d. July 16, 1861.

64 III. *Emma L.*, b. Oct. 7, 1847; drowned June 14, 1850.

(53) JEROME W. FOSTER, ESQ., son of Joel, during a useful life was prominent in town affairs and highly esteemed by the community. *Vide* page 485 and lists of town officers. He md. April 23, 1834, Mary Colson, dau. of George and Nancy (Aldrich) Colson. He d. March 23, 1871.

65 I. *George C.*, b. Jan 21, 1835.+

66 II. *Mary C.*, b. March 12, 1838; md. Feb. 9, 1858, Josiah P. Sawtell, *q. v.*

67 III. *Jerome*, b. Nov. 5, 1839; d. April 5, 1841.

68 IV. *Harriet M.*, b. July 28, 1843; md. July 1, 1875, Goldsburg H. Pond, son of Goldsburg and Julia Ann (Harden) Pond of Franklin, Mass.

69 V. *Susan R.*, b. Nov. 5, 1844; d. Aug. 14, 1866.

70 VI. *C. Lucretia*, b. June 1, 1846; resides unmd. in Ashburnham.

71 VII. *Ella J.*, b. Nov. 11, 1847; d. May 29, 1861.

72 VIII. *D. Josephine*, b. Dec. 26, 1849; d. Nov. 18, 1869.

73 IX. *Emma D.*, b. Feb. 6, 1852; d. Sept. 14, 1852.

74 X. *Emma*, b. June 15, 1853; d. Sept. 7, 1861.

75 XI. *Jerome*, b. June 5, 1856; d. Oct. 29, 1856.

(65) GEORGE C. FOSTER resides in Ashburnham. He is proprietor of a livery stable and a farmer, and an active, useful citizen. He. md. Aug. 10, 1856, Sarah E. Bemis, dau. of William Bemis, *q. v.*

76 I. *Charles W.*, b. May 16, 1858; resides unmd. in this town. He is of the sixth generation from Jeremiah and Ruth (Metcalf) Foster.

77 II. *George O.*, b. June 17, 1862; d. Feb. 12, 1883.

78 DEA. MOSES FOSTER is a prominent character in the early annals of Ashburnham. The date of his arrival

here is not accurately known. In 1750 the proprietors styled him "one of the first settlers." Those who came to the wilderness at this time found him improving a considerable clearing in the northeast part of the grant and in the present town of Ashby. In 1750 he removed to a lot east and adjoining the common and was there an innholder several years. In the records he is presented as an influential man and a prominent citizen. He was one of the thirteen original members and the first deacon of the church. After a prolonged search I am compelled to say that the place and date of his birth and record of his early life and marriage have not been found. I can only add that the name of his wife was Mary; she d. Nov. 11, 1777, "aged 70 to 80 years." He d. Oct. 17, 1785, "aged 94 years." The record of two children is imperfectly preserved.

79 I. *Moses*, b. ———; md. Mary ———; he lived in the northeast part of the grant and in company with Zimri Heywood he owned a mill. The site of this early mill is in Ashby. He removed in 1770 to Shelburne.

80 1. Milicent, b. May 1, 1758; d. Oct. 3, 1760.
81 2. Sarah, b. April 14, 1760.
82 3. Kezia, b. March 10, 1762.
83 4. Phebe, b. April 29, 1764; md. Capt. David Merriam, *q. v.*
84 5. Esther, b. Jan. 19, 1767.
85 6. Brooks, b. March 14, 1769.
86 7. Moses, b. in Shelburne; bap. in Ashburnham Dec. 29, 1771.

87 II. *Jane*, b. ———; md. June 5, 1756, Zimri Heywood, *q. v.*

88 NATHANIEL FOSTER, whose lineage has not been made certain, resided in this town twenty years immediately after the Revolution. His farm was near Ward pond in the northeast part of the town and probably west of it. His wife d. May 19, 1785; he md. (2d) Dec. 29, 1785, Mary Kendall of this town. He d. Oct. 12, 1804, aged, says Mr. Cushing, between 40 and 50 years.

89 I. *Mary*, b. Oct. 6, 1786.
90 II. *Rebecca*, b. Dec. 19, 1788.
91 III. *Lucy*, b. Aug. 12, 1791.
92 IV. *Catherine*, b. Dec. 9, 1793.
93 V. *Stephen*, b. Jan. 29, 1796; d. Feb. 12, 1796.

94 VI. *Nathaniel*, b. Feb. 22, 1797.
95 VII. *Joel*, b. June 9, 1801.
96 VIII. *Sarah*, b. Aug. 13, 1803.

1 JOEL FRENCH, a native of England, b. about 1760, with his family came to this country about 1806, and after a short residence in Weymouth, where he followed his trade as tailor, he removed to Ashburnham about 1818, and subsequently was a farmer. The youngest child b. during the voyage was named in compliment of the captain of the vessel. He d. March 29, 1829.

2 I. *Eliza*, b. 1798; md. John Pratt, *q. v.*
3 II. *Zethan*, b. 1802; md. in Ashburnham 1837, Phebe Ames; d. in Weathersfield, Vt., Nov. 25, 1884.
4 III. *Perez Drinkwater*, b. about 1806; d. in Reading, Vt., 1841.

FROST.

EDMUND FROST, with wife Thomasine, settled in Cambridge 1635. He was a ruling Elder of the church in Cambridge. His wife d. previous to 1669, and he md. (2d) widow Reana Daniel who survived him. He d. July 12, 1672, "leaving to his children the example of a godly life." Ephraim Frost, son of Edmund, the emigrant, resided in Cambridge where he d. Jan. 2, 1717–18, aged 72. By wife Hepsibah who survived him, he had five children; of these, Ebenezer Frost b. 1697, md. July 2, 1723, Deborah Martin. He was a currier and d. in Cambridge 1768, leaving three sons. The second of these, Ebenezer Frost, b. 1725, md. April 21, 1748, Naomi Dana, dau. of Thomas and Mary (Parker) Dana; about 1760 he removed to Rutland. Stephen Frost, son of Ebenezer and Naomi (Dana) Frost was b. in Rutland, and settled in Hubbardston. He md. Mary Warren of Brighton, and d. June 18, 1828; she d. May 31, 1851, aged 81 years. Their son Ebenezer, of the fifth generation, settled in Ashburnham.

1 EBENEZER FROST, son of Stephen and Mary (Warren) Frost, was b. in Hubbardston, Aug. 18, 1802. He removed to this town about 1823, and for many years he was an efficient and popular school teacher, and a farmer. He was an intelligent man, an active citizen, and his name frequently appears in the list of town officers. He md. Aug., 1828, Sally Sawin, dau. of Asa and Susannah (Grimes) Sawin, *q. v.* He d. Nov. 27, 1876; she d. Nov. 11, 1874.

2 I. *Spencer*, b. April 4, 1831; md. Sept., 1860, Mary R. Lamb of Westminster; he was in the service in the 53d Regiment and now resides, a farmer, in Arthur, Ill.

3 II. *Mary Susan*, b. March 23, 1833; md. Nov., 1856, David Heald of Milford, N. H.; she d. Nov. 9, 1859.
4 III. *Charles H.*, b. July 6, 1835; resides in Arthur, Ill.
5 IV. *Ellen R.*, b. March 27, 1838; md. 1862, Rinaldo H. Shattuck, son of Andrew and Rebecca (Green) Shattuck of Townsend. He enlisted on the quota of this town, and d. at Brashear, La., May 8, 1863; she md. (2d) 1875, George T. Samson, *q. v.*
6 V. *Huldah E.*, b. Jan. 18, 1841; md. Jan. 6, 1864, William P. Heald of Milford, N. H.; she d. Nov. 15, 1866.

7 JOHN FROST resided in this town from about 1778 to 1787. His early and subsequent history is unknown. The name of his wife was Mary, and three children were b. in this town.

8 I. *John*, b. Oct. 12, 1780.
9 II. *Joseph*, b. July 4, 1783.
10 III. *Hannah*, b. May 12, 1785.

1 CHESTER B. GALE, b. in Barnard, Vt., Feb. 17, 1831; md. March 15, 1859, Lucy A. Godfrey, and removed to this town 1862. In Aug., 1862, he enlisted in 36th Infantry and served through the war. He is a farmer.

2 I. *Alice G.*, b. March 14. 1860; d. May 29, 1860.
3 II. *Alta E.*, b. June 30, 1862.
4 III. *Charles B.*, b. July 23, 1866.
5 IV. *Clinton*, b. July 29, 1868; d. Aug. 28, 1868.
6 V. *Freddie C.*, b. May 8, 1871; d. Aug. 16, 1871.
7 VI. *Edith A.*, b. Nov. 25, 1876.

1 CAPT. JONATHAN GATES, with wife Elizabeth, and one or more children removed from Harvard to this town immediately preceding 1765. He was frequently elected to office and was a prominent citizen while he remained in this town. During the first three years of the Revolution he was a captain of the militia and several times he was in active service. *Vide* Chap. V, and list of town officers. Several children were bap., but the birth of none are on record. It is not certain that all the children are named in this register. The family removed from town soon after the Revolution.

2 I. *Jonathan*, b. in Harvard Sept. 27, 1762. In 1818 he was residing in Champion, N. Y. *Vide* page 184.
3 II. *Zaccheus.*
4 III. *Ebenezer Shedd.*
5 IV. *John.*
6 V. *Henry.*
7 VI. *Sarah*, b. 1776.
8 VII. *Freedom*, b. 1778.
9 VIII. *Thankful Fletcher*, b. 1780.

10 HENRY GATES, by a tradition a brother of Capt. Jonathan, with wife Lois, came to this town previous to 1770. He was a soldier in the Revolution. He settled on the Howard farm, and remained in this town during life. He d. Nov. 11, 1807; his widow d. Jan. 16, 1812.

11 I. *Hannah*, b. 1770.
12 II. *Lois*, b. 1771; md. Lyman Fletcher, *q. v.*
13 III. *Molly Shedd*, b. 1773; md. Joseph Davis, son of Amos Davis, *q. v.*
14 IV. *Henry*, b. 1775.+
15 V. *Hosea*, b. 1777; d. in Stow March 24, 1835.
16 VI. *Persis*, b. April 16, 1779; md. Edward Maynard, *q. v.*
17 VII. *William*, b. Oct. 13, 1782.+
18 VIII. *Jonathan*, b. 1786.

(14) HENRY GATES md. Aug. 10. 1796, Prudence Priest; she d. Feb. 5, 1808; md. (2d) 1809, Ruth Lawrence of Mason, N. H. He d. in this town Jan. 27, 1856. His death is recorded William Gates, and the death noted on page 552 refers to this Henry Gates.

19 I. *Candace*, b. Feb. 9, 1797.
20 II. *Artemas*, b. Sept. 6, 1798.
21 III. *Mary*, b. Feb. 19, 1805.
22 IV. *Louisa Whitcomb*, b. March 2, 1807.
23 V. *Eveline*, b. Feb. 15, 1810.
24 VI. *Sarah Lawrence*, b. April 21, 1811.

(17) WILLIAM GATES md. Sept. 6, 1807, Betsey Hosley of Hancock, N. H. They resided in Westminster from 1814 to 1818 and subsequently in this town. He d. Dec. 7, 1844; she d. Aug. 22, 1872.

25 I. *William*, b. Oct. 28, 1809; md. Aug. 29, 1837,

Betsey Hosley of Jamaica, Vt. He d. in New Fane, Vt., 1881.

26 II. *David*, b. Nov. 8, 1812; d. Sept. 17, 1814.
27 III. *Sally*, b. Aug. 11, 1814; md. Hezekiah Matthews, *q. v.*
28 IV. *Mary*, b. March 7, 1816; md. Ivers Burgess, *q. v.*
29 V. *Elizabeth*, b. April 25, 1818; md. Jesse Parker, *q. v.*

30 JOHN GATES, probably a brother of Capt. Jonathan and Henry, came to this town about 1770. He md. 1773, Catherine Coolidge, dau. of Elisha Coolidge, *q. v.*, and resided, a farmer, in this town.

31 I. *Catherine*, b. Sept. 15, 1773; md. Melzer Hudson, *q. v.*
32 II. *Levi*, b. Aug. 27, 1775.
33 III. *Lucy*, b. Sept. 5, 1778; md. Luther Brooks, *q. v.*
34 IV. *Betty*, b. Dec. 18, 1780; md. Dec. 27, 1801, Josiah Wheeler, b. in Westminster Dec. 31, 1781, son of Josiah and Lucy (Graves) Wheeler; md. (2d) Joseph Merriam, Jr., *q. v.*
35 V. *John*, b. March 28, 1783.+
36 VI. *Sally*, b. April 7, 1785.
37 VII. *Ezra*, b. July 26, 1787. No record of marriage; a child was buried in this town 1817, but he was not taxed that year.
38 VIII. *Amos*, b. May 22, 1790; d. July 4, 1794.
39 IX. *Nancy*, b. March 18, 1792; d. Dec. 13, 1796.
40 X. *Asa*, b. Feb. 18, 1794; d. Feb. 19, 1794.
41 XI. *Amy*, b. May 4, 1795; md. Dec. 12, 1815, Samuel Beal, son of John and Lydia (Holman) Beal of Chesterfield, N. H. They resided in Chesterfield, where she d. May 23, 1854. He d. Dec. 5, 1870. Nine children.
42 XII. *Loring*, b. Sept. 30, 1797; md. 1819, Nancy Adams, dau. of James Adams, *q. v.* They removed to Harford, Penn.

(35) JOHN GATES md. 1808, Lucy Pierce of Gardner.

43 I. *Nancy*, b. Jan. 13, 1809.
44 II. *Alfred*, b. Aug. 10, 1810.
45 III. *Lucy*, b. June 15, 1812.
46 IV. *John*, b. May 13, 1814.
47 V. *Ezra*, b. Nov. 18, 1816.
48 VI. *Warren*, b. April 7, 1819.

49 EVERETT GATES, b. Sept. 11, 1798, son of Isaiah and Susannah (Hapgood) Gates of Stow, md. Jan. 30, 1822, Chloe Constantine, dau. of Jacob Constantine, *q. v.* He was a farmer and on a farm in Ashby adjoining this town. He d. April 20, 1860; his widow resides on the homestead with memory unimpaired.

50 I. *John L.*, b. Nov. 3, 1822; d. June 12, 1829.
51 II. *Charles E.*, b. Feb. 16, 1825; d. unmd. Oct. 23, 1864.
52 III. *James L.*, b. May 3, 1827; d. June 16, 1829.
53 IV. *Jacob P.*, b. April 20, 1829.+
54 V. *George O.*, b. May 8, 1832; d. March 24, 1839.
55 VI. *Mary E.*, b. May 6, 1835; resides unmd. on the homestead.
56 VII. *Timothy N.*, b. Jan. 16, 1837; md. Sept. 28, 1859, Mary A. Whittemore; resides in Fitchburg. Six children.
57 VIII. *Otis E.*, b. Sept. 26, 1839; resides unmd. on the homestead.
58 IX. *Francis M.*, b. April 4, 1842; resides unmd. on the homestead.
59 X. *Eliza J.*, b. June 23, 1844; d. June 27, 1852.
60 XI. *Eugene C.*, b. July 16, 1847; resides unmd. on the homestead.

(53) JACOB PHILBRICK GATES, son of Everett Gates, md. Sept. 18, 1855, Sally Wilker, dau. of John Wilker, *q. v.* He is a farmer and owns a part of the original Wilker farm.

61 I. *Flora G.*, b. Nov. 17, 1856.
62 II. *Willie E.*, b. Aug. 15, 1862; d. Dec. 19, 1863.
63 III. *Clara M.*, b. Jan. 8, 1865.
64 IV. *Fred E.*, b. July 24, 1869.

1 CHARLES HENRY GENTLE, b. in Westminster Sept. 30, 1857, son of Charles and Mary (Dunn) Gentle, md. Nov. 23, 1881, Sarah Smith, dau. of Leonard and Mary (Mansfield) Smith. (*Vide* Lawrence register.) He owns and occupies the Merrick Willard farm at South Village.

GIBBS.

☞ The Gibbs families of America are of English origin. The Ashburnham families are descendants of Matthew Gibbs who was a planter in Charlestown at an early date, and where he md. about 1650, Mary Bradish, dau. of Robert Bradish of Cambridge. In 1654 he sold his house and land in Charlestown and removed to Sudbury. He was chosen one of a committee in 1655 and

subsequently was frequently mentioned in the Sudbury and county records. He d. previous to 1697. The eldest of his seven children was Matthew Gibbs, Jr., who was b. about 1655. He removed from Sudbury to Framingham, where he d. March 9, 1732. He md. 1678, Mary Moore, b. in Lancaster 1655, dau. of John and Ann (Smith) Moore of Lancaster and Sudbury. He md. (2d) Elizabeth Moore, b. 1657, a sister of his first wife. She d. in Framingham Jan. 20, 1733–4.

Joseph Gibbs, the fourth of the six children of Matthew Gibbs, Jr., was b. Oct. 7, 1687. He md. July 1, 1712, Mercy Clark, b. in Cambridge Dec. 18, 1690, dau. of James and Sarah (Champney) Clark. He resided in Framingham until about 1717, when he removed to Sudbury, where his wife d. Feb. 28, 1733–4. Joseph and Mercy (Clark) Gibbs had six children, of whom Joseph Gibbs, Jr., the second child and eldest son, was b. in Framingham, where he was bap. Sept. 13, 1719. He md. Hannah Howe and resided in Rutland and Princeton. He d. in Princeton May 12, 1774. His wife d. May 22, 1772. Two of the sons of Joseph Gibbs, Jr., settled in Ashburnham.

1 DANIEL GIBBS, eldest son of Joseph and Hannah (Howe) Gibbs, was b. Aug. 1, 1751. He resided in Princeton until 1778, when he bought land of John Gates and a mill in South Ashburnham of Philip Lock. He probably removed to Ashburnham in 1778, as his name appears on the remnant of a tax list for that year. He resided in this town until 1793, when he removed to Peterborough, N. H. From 1804 until his death he carried the mail from Brattleborough, Vt., to Portsmouth, N. H., at first on horseback and later in a light vehicle. He was killed while attempting to pass a bridge under repairs in Peterborough, Sept. 25, 1824. He md. in Princeton 1777, Lydia Woods, dau. of Samuel Woods of Princeton, and a half-sister of Rev. Dr. Leonard Woods; she survived him and d. in Peterborough April 14, 1836, aged 75. Three children were b. in Ashburnham and two in Peterborough.

2 I. *Polly*, b. April 12, 1781; d. April 17, 1795.

3 II. *Asa*, b. Aug. 26, 1789; md. March 16, 1809, Mary Gregg, dau. of Major Samuel Gregg of Peterborough, N. H. She d. Feb. 24, 1813; md. (2d) July 4, 1815, Sally Porter, dau. of James Porter of Peterborough. Succeeding his father he carried the mails until 1826. He d. in Peterborough May 27, 1849; his widow d. Oct. 24, 1859. Four children.

4 III. *Abel*, b. July 18, 1787; md. March 13, 1816, Nancy C. Porter, dau. of James Porter. He d. in Savannah, Ga., 1819. Their only child, James Porter Gibbs, d. in Woburn, Oct. 9, 1842, aged 26 years.

5 iv. *Lydia Woods*, b. Aug. 29, 1798; md. John Gardner; md. (2d) Jan., 1828, Rev. William Hogan of Savannah, Ga. He d. 1848; she d. in Peterborough Sept. 30, 1875.

6 v. *Sally*, b. 1800; d. unmd. May 29, 1820.

7 Joseph Gibbs, son of Joseph and Hannah (Howe) Gibbs, was b. Oct. 12, 1756. He remained in Princeton during the Revolution, and was taxed there until 1783. At this time he removed to this town and settled on the farm now of his grandson, George G. Samson. He was intelligent, industrious, honest, a kind neighbor and an exemplary citizen. He md. Jan. 9, 1787, Elizabeth Laws, b. July 28, 1766, dau. of James, Jr., and Anne (Danforth) Laws of Westminster. She d. Nov. 10, 1809; he md. (2d) June 19, 1811, Sally Fairbanks, dau. of Cyrus Fairbanks, *q. v.* He d. from injury received from a falling tree, March 19, 1829. His widow md. (2d) Nov. 19, 1835, Lewis Hill of Chester, Vt., and d. 1858. There were eleven children of Joseph and Elizabeth (Laws) Gibbs, and two of Joseph and Sally (Fairbanks) Gibbs.

8 i. *Joseph*, b. March 20, 1788; md. Feb. 2, 1813, Betsey Cowee of Westminster; resided in Benson, Vt.

9 ii. *Benjamin*, b. Feb. 3, 1790.+

10 iii. *Betsey*, b. March 16, 1792; md. Jonathan Samson, *q. v.*

11 iv. *Azubah*, b. Feb. 9, 1794; d. Aug. 9, 1795.

12 v. *Jonathan Danforth*, b. May 24, 1796; resided in Jaffrey, N. H.; md. Nov. 18, 1821, Rhoda Locke, b. July 27, 1801, dau. of Edward J. and Rhoda (Laws) Locke; she d. May 12, 1834; he md. (2d) Dec. 29, 1835, Sarah H. Wilson of Mason, N. H. He was a public-spirited citizen.

13 1. Rhoda Elizabeth, b. May 17, 1823.

14 vi. *Leavitt Howe*, b. March 26, 1798.+

15 vii. *Infant*, b. and d. Aug. 2, 1800.

16 viii. *Azubah*, b. Dec. 4, 1801; md. 1823, Alison Lake, Esq., of Rindge; she d. Jan. 3, 1832.

17 ix. *Leonard*, b. April 10, 1803; resided in Utica, N. Y.

18 x. *Cyrus*, b. Sept. 22, 1806; md. Elizabeth Bennett, resided in Canada.

19 xi. *Sylvia*, b. Sept. 4, 1808; d. Sept. 22, 1808.

20 XII. *Infant*, d. Aug. 1, 1814.

21 XIII. *Merrick H.*, b. Dec. 21, 1815; md. Sept. 19, 1842, Maria M. Whitney, dau. of Noah and Mercy Whitney; resided in Ashburnham and in Gardner. He d. June 17, 1879. His widow resides in Gardner.

22 1. Merrick Wallace, b. July 18, 1846; md. 1874, Lydia A. Whitman, dau. of Charles and Viola Whitman. He d. in Gardner Oct. 7, 1878; his wife d. Aug. 23, 1877. One dau., Maud E., b. Dec. 23, 1875.

23 2. Kate M., b. Sept. 26, 1848; md. Nov. 28, 1871, Edwin Gates, son of Addison and Nancy Gates; reside in Gardner.

(9) COL. BENJAMIN GIBBS was an officer of the militia several years, and was promoted Major 1824, and Lieutenant Colonel 1825. About 1826 he removed to Cambridgeport, where he d. Sept. 7, 1863. He md. Dec. 19, 1813, Sarah Rice, dau. of Reuben Rice, *q. v.* She d. Jan. 17, 1840; he md. (2d) July 22, 1841, her sister, Lucy Rice, who d. Dec. 29, 1885.

24 I. *Benjamin Warren*, b. Sept. 10, 1815; md. Oct. 14, 1838, Susan F. Johnson. He d. at Cambridgeport Jan. 7, 1878.

25 II. *Joseph N.*, b. July 24, 1817; md. Nov. 27, 1845, Elizabeth Wheeler. He is a jeweller at Medford.

26 III. *Reuben Rice*, b. Feb. 13, 1820; d. Sept. 19, 1824.

27 IV. *Sarah E.*, b. June 18, 1832; md. Nov. 22, 1855, Frank W. Reeves; she resides, his widow, at Laconia, N. H.

28 V. *George H.*, b. July 29, 1842; md. April 23, 1871, Ruhamah H. Wyman; he d. at Cambridgeport Nov. 5, 1882.

29 VI. *Charles E.*, b. Aug. 5, 1844; md. April 30, 1868, Mary E. Hartford; resides at Maplewood.

(14) LEAVITT H. GIBBS md. June 13, 1824, Charlotte Stearns, b. July 17, 1800, dau. of Daniel and Elizabeth (Knowlton) Stearns of Brattleborough, Vt. They resided in this town until 1864. In the infirmities of age they found a pleasant home with their children. He d. in Whitinsville Dec. 11, 1875. Mrs. Gibbs resides with her eldest

son in Fitchburg. She is the oldest member of the Congregational church, having been admitted to membership May 7, 1826.

30 I. *Joseph*, b. April 28, 1825; md. Sept. 30, 1849, Martha A. Dunn, dau. of John and Martha Dunn of Phillipston. He is a merchant tailor in Fitchburg.

31 1. Flora V., b. Feb. 28, 1851; md. March 19, 1873, Frank L. Danforth; they reside in Chicago, Ill.

32 II. *Charles Stearns*, b. April 10, 1827; d. unmd. April 29, 1856.

33 III. *Henry A.*, b. April 8, 1831; md. Sept. 30, 1858, Eliza A. Blodgett, dau. of James Blodgett, *q. v.* He is superintendent of streets in Woonsocket, R. I.

34 IV. *George L.*, b. Feb. 20, 1837. He has resided in Whitinsville since 1854, with the exception of one year in Fitchburg, where he was engaged in the clothing trade. He is a successful merchant, and in local and public affairs has manifested a lively interest. He was a member of the Legislature 1869, a member of the Republican State Committee 1881 and 1884, and an alternate delegate to the National Republican Convention 1884. He md. Helen Louisa Whiting, dau. of Charles P. and Sarah J. (Halliday) Whiting. She d. May 9, 1885.

35 1. George Melville.

36 V. *Ellen M.*, b. July 27, 1839; md. Aug. 10, 1864, William H. Hurd, b. Oct. 8, 1834, son of John and Sophia (Hitchcock) Hurd of Montague. They reside in Keene, N. H.

37 VI. *Harriet C.*, b. Feb. 2, 1842; d. July 17, 1843.

1 THOMAS GIBSON removed to the southeast part of this town about 1783. The name of his wife was Relief, but no record of the marriage has been found. An account of his service in the Revolution appears in Chap. VI. He d. June 11, 1841; his widow d. Oct. 20, 1849.

2 I. *Thomas*, b. July 4, 1784; md. 1808, Hannah Cutter, b. July 29, 1790, dau. of Ammi and Hannah (Holden) Cutter of Cambridge. He removed to Ashby, where their nine children

were b. Among these is Jerome S. Gibson who is number 12 of this register.

3 II. *Relief*, b. May 29, 1789.
4 III. *Lucinda*, b. March 25, 1790; md. 1810, Bezaleel Gibson.
5 IV. *Betsey*, b. Sept. 22, 1791.
6 V. *John*, b. Feb. 12, 1796; md. 1820, Rebecca Munroe, dau. of Lieut. Ebenezer Munroe, *q. v.*
7 VI. *Porter*, b. Sept. 20, 1798.
8 VII. *Sophia*, b. April 6, 1800; md. John Munroe, son of Lieut. Ebenezer Munroe, *q. v.*
9 VIII. *Hosea B.*, b. Aug. 21, 1802.

10 EBER GIBSON, son of Stephen and Eliza (Maynard) Gibson of Ashby, was b. Nov. 14, 1810. He is a grandson of Nehemiah Maynard, an early resident of this town. He md. Dec. 1, 1836, Sylvia Rice, dau. of Levi Rice, *q. v.*, and has remained in this town. Two children d. young.

11 I. *Elizabeth Ann*, b. Aug. 9, 1842; md. Nov. 27, 1858, Fred M. Stanley.

12 JEROME S. GIBSON, b. Oct. 24, 1822, in Ashby, md. April 10, 1845, Abigail D. Sawyer, dau. of Abel Sawyer; resided in this town many years and recently removed to Ashby. His wife d. 1886.

13 I. *Elwyn Deloss*, b. July 19, 1850; md. Feb. 7, 1877, Celia V. Marble, dau. of Newell Marble, *q. v.*
14 II. *Lillian Ardelle*, b. June 24, 1854; md. Charles S. Marble, son of Newell Marble, *q. v.*

1 WILLIAM GIPSON, b. in Lunenburg, md. Dolly Hawks and resided in Rindge and in this town. He was killed by a falling tree July 18, 1839, aged about 50 years. The records name three and it is certain there were other children.

2 I. *Mary H.*, md. 1840, Amos D. Brooks.
3 II. *Irene*, md. 1842, George Atkinson.
4 III. *Caroline P.*, md. 1846, James C. Peabody.

5 HENRY GIPSON, a brother of William Gipson, b. in Lunenburg Oct. 18, 1793, md. 1811, Dolly R. Samson, dau. of Jonathan Samson, Jr. He resided a few years in Rindge, returning to this town in 1827. He d. March 10, 1861; she d. Dec. 18, 1873.

6 I. *Susan Samson*, b. March 1, 1812.
7 II. *Henry*, b. Nov. 16, 1813; md. 1836, Mary L. Perry, dau. of Obadiah and Lavinia (Piper) Perry of Littleton; he d. about 1865; she md. (2d) Charles Taylor, son of Samuel and Persis (Jones) Taylor of New Ipswich.
8 III. *Dolly Rosina*, b. Oct. 20, 1815.
9 IV. *Merrick*, b. Sept. 14, 1817; md. Jan. 20, 1842, Roxanna Townsend; lives in Ashby.
10 V. *Sarah Elizabeth*, b. Oct. 23, 1823.
11 VI. *Mary Abigail*, b. Sept. 8, 1825; md. Nov. 23, 1842, Silas W. Winchester, son of Jona. Winchester, Jr.
12 VII. *Julia Ann*, b. Sept. 29, 1827.
13 VIII. *Jane*, b. June 24, 1832.
14 IX. *Charles*, b. March 12, 1834; md. Jan. 18, 1857, Sarah M. Jackman of Antrim, N. H. He is an invalid; resides in northeast part of the town.

15 1. Charles Eugene, b. Oct. 18, 1857.
16 2. Merrick Oswell, b. Feb. 14, 1859.
17 3. James Jackman, b. Sept. 22, 1860.
18 4. Oren R., b. March 2, 1863.
19 5. Willie E., b. Dec. 22, 1864.
20 6. Mary Ella, b. Nov. 7, 1866.

1 DEA. JOHN C. GLAZIER, b. in Gardner Sept. 7, 1798, was a son of Dea. Lewis and Betsey (Coolidge) Glazier and a grandson of John and Sarah (Temple) Glazier of Shrewsbury and Gardner. He md. Sophia Bancroft, b. Jan. 19, 1800, dau. of Jonathan and Betsey (Parker) Bancroft of Gardner. In 1824 he removed to South Ashburnham and for many years he was actively engaged in the manufacture of chairs. He was a deacon of the Congregational church from 1836 to 1857, when he resigned and united with the Methodists. He was a selectman and in 1846 he represented the town in the Legislature. He d. Dec. 21, 1860.

2 I. *Jonathan B.*, b. Nov. 9, 1823; d. Dec. 16, 1823.
3 II. *Betsey Coolidge*, b. June 16, 1825; md. Edward S. Flint, *q. v.*
4 III. *Harvey Bancroft*, b. Dec. 3, 1828; d. July 13, 1832.
5 IV. *Lewis*, b. Nov. 23, 1833; md. 1855, Elizabeth J. Lawrence, b. 1834, dau. of Ithamar Lawrence of Jaffrey, N. H. He d. in this town Nov. 15, 1863.
6 V. *Lucy Ann*, b. Feb. 12, 1844; md. Alva S. Howe, son of Perley Howe, *q. v.*

1 PETER GOODALE, b. Dec. 12, 1751, was a son of Edward Goodale of Shrewsbury, grandson of Benjamin Goodale of Marlboro' and great-grandson of John Goodale of Marlboro'. He md. in Shrewsbury, March 9, 1775, Abigail Hinds, b. July 14, 1752, dau. of Benjamin and Elizabeth (Temple) Hinds of Shrewsbury. He removed from Shrewsbury to Ashburnham in 1776 and settled in the southwest part of the town. When Gardner was incorporated, his farm was included and the new town acquired a good citizen. He was selected to warn the first town meeting in Gardner, and was subsequently treasurer and selectman. He was a liberal contributor of material for the first meeting-house in the new town. He removed to Boylston, 1791.

2 I. *Elizabeth*, b. in Shrewsbury Dec. 23, 1775.
3 II. *Benjamin*, b. in Ashburnham Sept. 5, 1778.
4 III. *Jason*, b. in Ashburnham Dec. 7, 1780.
5 IV. *Peter*, b. in Ashburnham May 3, 1783.
6 V. *Asaph*, b. in Gardner May 13, 1787.
7 VI. *Junia*, b. in Gardner April 17, 1789.

1 MATTHEW E. GOODWIN, b. in Shoreham, Vt., March 25, 1813, has resided in this town about fifty years. He md. May 4, 1836, Mary Burgess, dau. of Joseph F. Burgess, *q. v.* He is a carpenter at the South Village.

2 I. *Lois Irene*, b. Aug. 7, 1838; md. Charles Henry Puffer, *q. v.*
3 II. *Jonathan Edward*, b. July 12, 1840; md. Jane Foster; md. (2d) Mary (Derby) Flint, widow; resides in Gardner.
4 III. *Jesse Washburn*, b. Feb. 9, 1843; md. Nina Parsons; resided in Camden, N. Y., until 1886, when he removed to this town.
5 IV. *Matthew Birchard*, b. Nov. 28, 1845; md. Florence Ritchie. He is a chair maker at South Village.
6 V. *Juliette*, b. Sept. 13, 1848; md. March 7, 1864, Chester Burbee; they reside at South Village.
7 VI. *Willie Charles*, b. March 4, 1854; drowned May 10, 1864.
8 VII. *Alice Jane*, b. July 21, 1858; md. June 26, 1876, Burnard Duane, manufacturer at South Village.

GREEN.

SIMEON GREEN, son of William and Hannah (Holden) Green, was b. in Groton Sept. 15, 1729; he md. in Pepperell, Sept. 13, 1753, Mary Shattuck, b. Sept. 22, 1730, dau. of Jonathan and Elizabeth (Chamberlain) Shattuck

of Groton. They resided some years in Pepperell, and about 1777 removed to Jaffrey, N. H., and about 1791 removed to Townsend. He d. Sept. 16, 1813, aged 84. Mary, his wife, d. June 27, 1810, aged nearly 80. Solomon Green, their son, removed to Jaffrey with his parents. He md. 1786, Sarah Hilton of Lunenburg, and removed to Townsend about 1791, where he d. May 31, 1803, aged 39; she d. Sept. 2, 1850, aged 82 years. The seventh of their nine children was Rebecca Green, b. March 5, 1801; md. Sept. 26, 1830, Andrew Shattuck of Pepperell, son of Abijah Shattuck. They resided in Shirley and Townsend. He d. Oct. 5, 1844, aged 42; she md. (2d) Walter Russell, *q. v.*; md. (3d) Hosea Green, *q. v.* Rinaldo H. Shattuck, who d. in the army May 8, 1863, was a son of Andrew and Rebecca (Green) Shattuck. He was b. in Shirley March 18, 1838.

1 OLIVER GREEN, son of Simeon and Mary (Shattuck) Green, was b. in Pepperell March 28, 1754. He md. July 13, 1780, Dorothy Hildreth, b. Feb. 5, 1757, and they removed in 1782 to Ashby, where they resided seventeen years. Living one year, 1799, in Westford, they removed in 1800 to this town, where he d. May 15, 1834; his widow d. Feb. 20, 1845.

2 I. *Oliver*, b. July 4, 1781; a clergyman and teacher; d. Oct. 24, 1810. *Vide* page 494.

3 II. *Dolly*, b. Dec. 10, 1782; md. Oliver Marble, *q. v.*

4 III. *Mary*, b. April 9, 1785; md. John Caldwell, *q. v.*

5 IV. *Anner*, b. Feb. 10, 1787; md. Samuel Randall, *q. v.*

6 V. *Asa*, b. Feb, 11, 1789; a physician; d. in New York City, 1839. *Vide* page 497.

7 VI. *Betsey*, b. Jan. 25, 1791; d. May 20, 1793.

8 VII. *Sally*, b. Dec. 9, 1792; md. John Hastings, *q. v.*

9 VIII. *Rebecca*, b. June 15, 1795; md. June 26, 1817, Joseph F. Cushman; resided at Rutland, Vt., and in Michigan. She d. June 2, 1865; he d. 1868. Ten children.

10 IX. *Hosea*, b. Sept. 22, 1797.+

(10) HOSEA GREEN, at this date, 1886, is the most aged man in Ashburnham. Quiet in his manner, refined in thought, kind to his fellow-men, his life is blameless and crowned with the fruits of good works and faithful stewardship. He md. May 22, 1821, Asenath Sawin, dau. of Asa Sawin, *q. v.* She d. March 10, 1843; he md. (2d) Nov. 16, 1843, Susan (Bemis) Merriam, widow of James Merriam, *q. v.*; she d. Nov. 10, 1857; he md. (3d) Feb. 15, 1858, Rebecca (Green) Russell, dau. of Solomon Green. Eight children by first, and two by second marriage.

11 I. *Daughter*, b. Jan. 22, 1822; d. same day.

12 II. *Hosea Hildreth*, b. Dec. 26, 1824; d. Aug. 13, 1843.

13 III. *Oliver Marshall*, b. Jan. 8, 1827; md. Nov. 15, 1854, Lydia A. Green of Ashby; reside in North Chelmsford.

14 IV. *Rebecca Cushman*, b. June 29, 1831; md. May 23, 1855, Francis Fuller of Newton; reside in Dorchester.

15 V. *Harlan Phinney*, b. March 1, 1836; md. Dec. 30, 1860, Eliza J. Osgood; a merchant in Townsend.

16 VI. *Anner Randall*, b. April 5, 1838; md. May 8, 1859, Rev. William H. Dowden, b. in Fairhaven, Jan. 15, 1836, son of Thomas and Eunice (Simons) Dowden, graduate of Andover Theo. Seminary, 1866. Congregational clergyman, having had charges in Pelham. Carlisle, Lunenburg. East Jaffrey, N. H., Hanover, Easton and now, 1886, Rowley.

17 VII. *Sarah Asenath*, b. June 24, 1840; md. Aug. 30, 1860, Alson L. Marshall of Fitchburg; resides in Wakefield.

18 VIII. *Susan Elsie*, b. March 5, 1843; d. Jan. 10, 1846.

19 IX. *Susan A.*, b. Sept. 29, 1845; md. William H. White of Shirley.

20 X. *Hattie E.*, b. Aug. 22, 1848; d. April 24, 1849.

GREENWOOD.

ABIJAH GREENWOOD, b. 1748, a son of Joseph Greenwood of Holden, removed to Hubbardston about 1770. He enlisted in 1775 and served in the siege of Boston. He md. July 14, 1774, Rhoda Pond, b. Oct. 12, 1753, dau. of Ezra and Sarah (Morse) Pond of Hubbardston and a granddau. of Ezra Pond of Wrentham; she d. June 16, 1782. Two of her three children survived her. Abijah Greenwood md. (2d) Oct. 3, 1783, Elizabeth Marean who d. Feb. 15, 1814; he d. Jan. 9, 1814.

Otis Greenwood, son of Abijah and Rhoda (Pond) Greenwood, was b. in Hubbardston Dec. 4, 1781. He md. Nov. 27, 1806, Sophia Rice, b. in Hubbardston 1785, dau. of Edmund and Abigail (Muzzy) Rice. He d. Oct. 6, 1814; his widow d. May 7, 1816.

1 EDMUND R. GREENWOOD, son of Otis and Sophia (Rice) Greenwood, was b. in Hubbardston Dec. 1, 1807, and was left an orphan at an early age. He md. Sept. 4, 1828, Susan H. Slocomb, b. in Boston Sept. 9, 1808, dau. of Peleg and Polly (Phelps) Slocomb. He was engaged in the manufacture of chairs in Hubbardston until 1851, when he removed to this town. He d. Jan. 12, 1882.

2 I. *Otis*, b. March 4, 1829; resided in California, where he d. July, 1863.

3 II. *John Q.*, b. Sept. 28, 1830; md. Sept. 28, 1852,

Ellen M. Joslin, dau. of Levi and Dorcas (Wright) Joslin; resided in this town, where he d. Oct. 17, 1858.

4 III. *Mary S.*, b. Dec. 20, 1833; md. Col. George H. Barrett, *q. v.*

5 IV. *Theodore*, b. July 27, 1835; md. April 5, 1860, Ellen M. (Joslin) Greenwood, widow of his brother, John Q. Greenwood. He served in the Civil War and continues a residence in this town. He has been an assessor several years.

6 V. *Edmund*, b. Dec. 18, 1837; resides in Memphis, Tenn.

7 VI. *Abby S.*, b. April 14, 1840; d. April 12, 1841.

8 VII. *James B.*, b. Sept. 10, 1842; d. Feb. 10, 1846.

9 VIII. *Moses P.*, b. Dec. 21, 1845; md. June 18, 1868, Georgie S. Whitney, dau. of Hon. Ohio Whitney, *q. v.* He is a merchant in this town. From 1881 to 1886 he was of the firm of Adams and Greenwood, and now is proprietor of the business in the Brick Store.

1 APOLLOS GRISWOLD, son of Apollos and Prudence (Crapoe) Griswold, was b. in Savoy March 17, 1812. He md. April 23, 1839, Arvilla Wetherbee, dau. of Joseph and Nancy (Conant) Wetherbee of Rindge, and resided in Rindge until 1865, when he removed to the Willard farm in the north part of the town. They have one adopted son.

2 I. *John W.*, b. Aug. 1, 1858; md. Aug. 23, 1883, Jennie L. Ellis, dau. of Daniels Ellis, *q. v.* He is a farmer; resides on the Charles Davis farm, near North Village.

1 PEEKS GROSS, b. May 24, 1766; md. in Scituate Jan. 7, 1799, Sarah L. Whitney. They resided a few years in Hanover and came to this town 1816. He bought at this time the Brooks mill and a farm connected with the property, which still remain in the possession of the family. He d. Sept. 7, 1835.

2 I. *Elijah*, b. July 8, 1806.+

3 II. *Sarah L.*, b. Feb. 23, 1808; md. June 10, 1830, Levi Corey, *q. v.*

4 III. *Eveline*, b. March 20, 1810; md. Sept. 16, 1832, Moses H. Ross. They removed to Sterling. Eight children.

5 IV. *James M.*, b. June 26, 1816; md. Oct. 28, 1840, Sarah W. Stowers. He resided in Chelsea, where he d. Oct. 5, 1883.

6 v. *Alexander P.*, b. Jan. 18, 1818. He was a millwright; he md. Lucretia Waldbridge and removed to California. He d. in San Francisco Aug. 4, 1883.

(2) Elijah Gross md. June 6, 1833, Mercy Smith, dau. of Charles and Polly (Burgess) Smith of Westminster and a granddau. of Ebenezer Burgess, *q. v.* He is a farmer and a miller, doing business with his son under firm name of E. Gross & Son.

7 i. *Harrison E.*, b. Oct. 13, 1834; d. same day.
8 ii. *Eveline Augusta*, b. Dec. 18, 1838; d. April 21, 1845.
9 iii. *Sarah Whitney*, b. Aug. 31, 1840; resides at home unmd.
10 iv. *Andrew Porter*, b. Feb. 11, 1843; of the firm E. Gross & Son.

1 Gamaliel Hadley, son of Jerold Hadley, was b. in Woburn June 5, 1797. He came to Ashburnham 1819 and subsequently occupied several farms. In 1846 he removed to Rindge and later to Michigan. Returning to Ashburnham he occupied the farm now of his son George G. Hadley until his death. He md. Nov. 8, 1819, Martha F. Knight, b. Sept. 21, 1801, dau. of John and Martha Knight of Woburn. He d. Oct. 20, 1882; his widow d. Oct. 26, 1885.

2 i. *Martha*, b. April 28, 1821; md. Leonard Lawrence, *q. v.*; md. (2d) Charles Lawrence, *q. v.*
3 ii. *Rosilla*, b. Sept. 12, 1823; d. July 3, 1824.
4 iii. *John*, b. May 10, 1825; was engaged several years in Rindge in the manufacture of lumber and wood ware. For several years he has resided in this town. He md. Nov. 16, 1857, Lydia E. Richardson of Westminster, who d. Aug. 29, 1863; md. (2d) 1865, Susan (Kidder) Sawin, widow of John Sawin, *q. v.*
5 iv. *Harriet*, b. Sept. 5, 1827; md. Ai Stone, b. in Gardner Aug. 25, 1817, son of Samuel and Lucy (Wheeler) Stone. They resided in Ashby, Winchendon and Gardner. She d. in Gardner July 13, 1862.
6 v. *Sarah*, b. March 18, 1830; md. Uriah Lawrence, *q. v.*
7 vi. *George Gamaliel*, b. June 3, 1832; md. Aug. 15, 1876, Mary E. Estey, b. March 12, 1861. He

resides a farmer on the homestead, and where Jeremiah Foster settled when he came to the wilderness. Three children.

8 VII. *Henry*, b. Oct. 28, 1835; md. Elmira Bancroft, dau. of Dea. Smyrna W. Bancroft of Gardner; resides in Gardner.

9 VIII. *Rebecca*, b. Dec. 27, 1837; d. Jan. 8, 1841.

10 IX. *Hosea*, b. Sept. 29, 1845; d. Oct. 2, 1845.

11 DAVID HADLEY, a brother of Gamaliel, was b. in Woburn Feb. 6, 1800. He md. 1827, Abigail Bruce of Westminster. She was b. Oct. 10, 1810, and d. March 22, 1873. He was a farmer on the farm now of his son Merrick Hadley. He d. Sept. 7, 1857.

12 I. *Charles B.*, b. March 1, 1829; d. March 16, 1829.

13 II. *Merrick*, b. Oct. 27, 1830; md. April 20, 1861, Lucy E. (Harris) Ballou, b. Feb. 16, 1829. He is a farmer in Lane Village.

14 1. Frank A., b. Sept. 19, 1864 (adopted).

15 III. *Sumner D.*, b. Feb. 6, 1833; d. May 23, 1857.

16 IV. *Augusta A.*, b. Aug. 17, 1835; d. July 12, 1853.

17 V. *Louisa Jane*, b. Jan. 15, 1838; md. Edwin Scollay, son of Grover Scollay, *q. v.*

18 VI. *Arvilla A.*, b. July 6, 1840; md. James Bullard of Berlin; resides in Worcester.

19 WILLIAM HADLEY, son of William and Abigail (Babcock) Hadley, b. in Westminster, Vt., Feb. 17, 1836, removed to this town 1862. He md. Oct. 13, 1863, Victoria Adalaide Russell, b. Oct. 3, 1842, dau. of Daniel and Amy (Whittaker) Russell. Daniel Russell d. in this town Feb. 12, 1883. Mr. Hadley is a mechanic residing in Central Village. No children.

1 HENRY HALL was b. in Germany 1711. He md. in his native land Anna Mary Saunders, and came to America about 1750. The name was then written Hole, but it soon was changed to Hall. He was one of the seven German emigrants who purchased in Dec., 1757, the Lexington grant. This tract of land containing one thousand acres was subsequently known as the Dutch Farm. In the distribution of the land Henry Hall came into possession of two parcels. He settled on a corner lot more recently owned by Capt. Lemuel Whitney. He was an intelligent man and a good citizen, and his wife was an accomplished lady.

The births of the children were not recorded and possibly the register is not complete. He d. Oct. 14, 1794, aged 83. Mary, his widow, d. Jan. 27, 1802, aged 76.

2 I. *Mary*, b. ——; md. April 27, 1772, Jedediah Cooper. They lived over the line in Westminster but attended church in this town and maintained social relations with the families of Ashburnham. It is tradition that this dau. of the emigrant was b. on the ocean. The younger children were b. in Boston. He d. 1832; she d. 1839. Six children.

3 II. *John*, b. Aug. 18, 1753.+

4 III. *Henry*, b. 1754.+

5 IV. *Katherine*, b. ——; md. Jan. 8, 1778, Elijah McIntire.

(3) John Hall md. Nov. 25, 1790, Betsey Bennett, dau. of James and Hannah Bennett, *q. v.* He resided on a farm near the residence of Nathan and Oliver Taylor. He d. Aug. 4, 1834; she d. in Ashby July 29, 1839. There were seven children.

6 I. *John*, b. Aug. 20, 1791; md. Oct. 26, 1817, Lois Marble, dau. of Oliver Marble, *q. v.* He resided a few years in Berkshire, Vt., and in 1825 returned to this town, residing on the farm formerly of his father. About 1840 he removed to Wisconsin. He md. (2d) Abigail A. Shepherd who was the mother of his five children.

7 1. Amos S., b. Jan. 24, 1823.

8 2. Otis, b. Jan. 2, 1825.

9 3. Eliza, b. March 7, 1826.

10 4. John, b. Sept. 19, 1827.

11 5. Betsey Ellen, b. Oct. 30, 1831.

12 II. *Elizabeth*, b. June 14, 1793; md. Jan. 8, 1815, Noah Goen of New Ipswich. She d., leaving a daughter, Dec. 6, 1815.

13 1. Elizabeth, b. Dec. 1, 1815; md. Dec. 10, 1839, David Hill; resided in Lowell, where he d. March 17, 1867. Their daughter, Anna Elizabeth Hill, b. Sept. 12, 1843, md. Jan. 3, 1870, George Frederick Smith. They had two sons: George Robert, b. Oct. 10, 1845, and Edward Francis, b. Oct. 2, 1855.

14 III. *Nancy*, b. March 5, 1795; md. Nov. 28, 1813,

Joseph Fletcher of New Ipswich. They resided in Enosburg, Vt. She d. at the home of her youngest dau. in Keene, N. H., April 10, 1875.

15 1. Nancy, b. 1815; md. Rev. Silas S. Hyde.
16 2. Almira, b. Feb. 16, 1820; md. Nov. 27, 1845, Charles B. Jaquith. They resided in this town until 1872 when they removed to Keene, N. H. They have one son, Ossian Jaquith.
17 IV. *Henry*, b. Jan. 30, 1797; md. Abigail Crampton, and resided in Berkshire, Vt.
18 V. *James*, b. Aug. 15, 1798; md. Mary Barton of Berkshire, Vt.; subsequently lived in New York.
19 VI. *Quincy*, b. May 16, 1800; md. Almira Rublee; resided in Wisconsin. Several children.
20 VII. *Almira*, b. Oct. 30, 1803; md. Sept. 26, 1850, Samuel Stearns of Rindge; d. 1877.

(4) HENRY HALL, son of Henry, md. Nov. 11, 1784, Betsey Hall of Ashby. He was a farmer residing on the farm of his father. He d. Feb. 10, 1822; his widow d. Oct., 1829. They had one child.

21 I. *Elizabeth*, b. Feb. 6, 1788; md. Dec. 4, 1804, Capt. Lemuel Whitney, *q. v.*.

1 JOHN HAMMOND, who had formerly been a ship carpenter, after a brief residence in Fitchburg removed to this town in 1844. He resided at Factory Village. In 1870 he went West to live with his children who had previously removed from town. The name of his wife was Sarah. No record of the family has been furnished and a number of letters remained unanswered. All the information gleaned from the records is included in the following register.

2 I. *John*, b. 1834; removed to Michigan.
3 II. *Sarah*, b. 1836; d. June 20, 1855.
4 III. *George H.*, b. about 1838; removed to Detroit, Mich.; was largely interested in the meat business and in the export trade. He was a prominent owner of the Refrigerator Car and the first to use them in the shipment of dressed meat. He d. in Detroit Jan. 6, 1887.
5 IV. *Relief*, b. ——.
6 V. *Martha*, b. ——.
7 VI. *Thomas*, b. ——; md. 1866, Helen E. Potter.
8 VII. *Walter*, b. 1846; d. Feb. 5, 1847.

9 VIII. *Frederick*, b. July 31, 1848; was in the service in the Civil War on the quota of this town.
10 IX. *Albert*, b. Sept. 26, 1850; d. at Miama, Mo., Sept. 9, 1873.
11 X. *Henry*, b. ——.
12 XI. *Juliette*, b. Dec. 25, 1852.
13 XII. *Herbert*, b. 1854; d. Aug. 6, 1855.

1 NATHAN HANDLEY, b. in Acton Jan. 28, 1795, removed to Ashburnham 1825, where he resided until his death March 31, 1858. He md. Abigail Wilker, dau. of George Wilker, *q. v.*; she d. Jan. 24, 1871.

2 I. *Sarah W.*, b. April 8, 1827; md. Dec. 16, 1849, George C. Winchester, *q. v.*
3 II. *George W.*, b. March 26, 1828; md. Clarissa M. Green, dau. of Emerson and Clarissa (Wright) Green. They reside in Ashby. He is postmaster.
4 III. *Martha A.*, b. Feb. 28, 1830; unmd.; resides with her sister in Ashburnham.

1 PATRICK HARE, b. 1776 in the county of Down, Ireland, md. Mary Daley, b. 1788; came to America 1843, and to Ashburnham 1856. He d. Nov. 2, 1864; she d. Aug. 3, 1871.

2 I. *Elizabeth*, b. 1816; md. Michael Cuddy; d. in Manchester, N. H., 1874.
3 II. *Rosena*, b. ——; md. John Finan, *q. v.*
4 III. *John*, b. 1826; md. Joanna Collins; enlisted in the autumn of 1861 in 32d Regiment and d. at Ship Island, Miss., March 8, 1862.
5 IV. *Maria*, b. 1836; md. 1853, James Holden, b. in Ireland 1830. He is a farmer; resided in this town since 1874; seven of their eleven children are living.
6 V. *Ann*, b. 1838; md. William M. Young.
7 VI. *James P.*, b. April 25, 1842; md. Oct. 10, 1864, Mary F. Nash, b. July 7, 1841, dau. of John and Margaret Nash; resides in Ashburnham. Seven children.

1 DANIEL HARPER was a roving planet whose familiar name is found in the records of many towns in this vicinity. Perhaps his occupation controlled his frequent removals. There were steelyard makers in the olden times who sought new fields whenever the demands of their

immediate vicinity had been supplied. It is possible he was a harper and travelled from town to town. He md. in Lunenburg Nov. 23, 1758, Rachel Coleman, dau. of James Coleman, *q. v.*, and the following year he was in Dorchester Canada. In 1765 he removed to Rindge and his family arrived there the next spring. Subsequently he lived in many places. Where death overtook him in his sudden movements has not appeared.

2 I. *Rachel*, b. in Ashburnham April 1, 1761.
3 II. *James Coleman*, b. in Ashburnham March 10, 1762.
4 III. *Daniel*, b. in Shirley March 10, 1766.
5 IV. *Mary*, b. in Littleton Feb. 27, 1770.
6 V. *Aaron*, b. in Littleton Jan. 29, 1772.
7 VI. *Ezekiel*, b. in Shirley Feb. 8, 1778.

HARRIS.

There are several families of Harris in New England that can establish no ties of kinship. The number of emigrants to this country previous to 1640 bearing the name of Harris was eight or more. Some of these probably were relatives, yet there is ample evidence that there were several distinct families sharing nothing in common except the name. Dea. Jacob Harris, the first of the name in this town, was a descendant of the fourth generation from Thomas Harris, one of the early settlers of Ipswich. He was in Ipswich as early as 1636, and in 1648 he was one of a company of twenty who marched against the Indians. He md. Nov. 15, 1647, Martha Lake, dau. of John and Margaret (Read) Lake. He d. Aug. 2, 1687. Sergeant John Harris, son of Thomas, b. Jan. 7, 1653, md. Jan. 8, 1686, Grace Searle, dau. of William Searle of Ipswich, and resided in Ipswich where he d. Nov. 21, 1732; his widow d. June 10, 1742. Of their seven children the youngest was Richard Harris, b. Nov. 13, 1705. He md. 1735, Martha Foster, b. Dec. 16, 1710, dau. of Jacob and Martha (Graves) Foster of Ipswich. In 1743 Richard Harris and Jeremiah Foster jointly purchased 112 acres of land situated in Stow and the same year both of them with their families removed to Harvard. The wife of Richard Harris was a first cousin of Jeremiah Foster. Not many years later this Jeremiah Foster and a son of Richard Harris are found residing in Ashburnham. Martha, wife of Richard Harris, d. in Harvard Sept. 8, 1756; he md. (2d) Phebe (Wright) Atherton, widow of John Atherton. He d. Dec. 20, 1776. Three of the children of Richard Harris, Dea. Jacob, Nathaniel and Rebecca (Harris) Scollay, were residents of Ashburnham.

1 DEA. JACOB HARRIS, son of Richard and Martha (Foster) Harris, was b. in Ipswich Feb. 15, 1740–1. In 1743 the family removed to Harvard and he came to Ashburnham in 1767. Among his townsmen he was held in high esteem and was frequently chosen to positions of trust. He was selectman 1781 and an assessor fifteen years, serving in this capacity nearly every year from 1779 to 1798. He was a deacon of the Congregational church from 1788 until his death. He settled about one mile northerly from

the old common. The house he built and occupied remains with slight change. His successor, so far as the house is concerned, was Townsend Barrett. Dea. Harris md. Oct. 26, 1769, Elizabeth Winchester, dau. of Rev. Jonathan Winchester, *q. v.* She d. June 21, 1782; he md. (2d) Aug. 21, 1783, Anna (Merriam) Warren, b. Oct. 10, 1753, dau. of Samuel and Anna (Whitney) Merriam of Lexington, and widow of Samuel Warren of Ashburnham, *q. v.* She d. Sept. 15, 1790; he md. (3d) Oct. 11, 1792, Ruth (Poole) Pratt, b. May 27, 1754, dau. of James and Elizabeth Poole of Fitchburg, and widow of Edward Pratt of New Ipswich. She d. Nov. 11, 1817. In 1826 Dea. Harris removed with his son Jacob, Jr., to Windham, N. H., where a few months later he d. Sept. 26, 1826.

2 I. *Betsey*, b. Sept 25, 1772; md. Feb. 13, 1798, Jonathan Merriam, b. Feb. 16, 1766, son of Samuel and Anna (Whitney) Merriam of Lexington and a brother of the second wife of her father. They resided in Gardner, where he d. Jan. 13, 1825. Subsequently she resided in this town and in Fitchburg, where she d. May 30, 1865.

3 1. Jacob Harris, b. Jan. 22, 1799; graduated Bangor Theo. Seminary 1827; not ordained; resided in Fitchburg; md. Nov. 27, 1834, Abigail L. Wheeler.

4 2. Nathan, b. Aug. 7, 1800; d. Sept. 19, 1805.

5 3. Betsey W., b. Aug. 7, 1802; d. Sept. 16, 1805.

6 4. Sally H., b. May 16, 1808; d. Dec. 2, 1824.

7 5. Milton, b. June 20, 1810; d. Jan. 19, 1825.

8 6. Betsey, b. Nov. 17, 1813; md. her cousin John M. Harris, number 23 of this register.

9 II. *Samuel*, b. Aug. 18, 1774.+

10 III. *Jacob*, b. April 3, 1777; d. Oct. 5, 1778.

11 IV. *Sally*, b. Oct. 20, 1779; d. unmd. Oct. 11, 1820.

12 V. *Martha*, b. June 10, 1784; md. Aug. 8, 1808, Joshua Moore of Westminster where he d. May 17, 1848; she d. in Gardner Nov. 11, 1863.

13 1. Emily, b. March 18, 1810; d. unmd. Nov. 8, 1881.

14 2. Marius H., b. May 24, 1814; md. Aug. 26, 1847, Elizabeth Wood; resides in Leominster.

15 3. Cordelia E., b. Aug. 21, 1823; md. Nov. 8, 1849, Franklin H. Sprague, Esq.; resided in Boston and during the past twenty years in Framingham. He was a member of Legislature 1858, 1873, 1874.

16 4. John Milton, b. July 22, 1827; md. Nov. 29, 1854, Myra A. Sawin, dau. of Joseph D. and Marcia M. (Scribner) Sawin of Gardner. Hon. John M. Moore is a manufacturer of chairs in South Gardner. He has served in both branches of the Legislature, and for many years has been a member of the School Committee of Gardner.

17 VI. *Jacob*, b. Nov. 14, 1786; was a farmer in Ashburnham and after 1826 in Windham, N. H. He was a respected citizen and occupied several positions of trust. He md. April 8, 1817, Sophia Smith, b. Oct. 24, 1787, dau. of Joshua Smith, Esq., *q. v.* He d. Feb. 27, 1860; his widow d. April 23, 1869. No children.

18 VII. *Eunice*, b. Jan. 28, 1790; d. in Windham, N. H., unmd., June 18, 1877.

(9) Rev. Samuel Harris resided in this town, except two or three years in Fitchburg, until about 1804. He was subsequently a Congregational minister in New Hampshire. *Vide* page 509. He md. April 17, 1798, Ruth Pratt, a daughter by a former marriage of the third wife of his father. She was b. in New Ipswich Aug. 29, 1779; d. in Windham, N. H., March 22, 1869. Rev. Samuel Harris d. in Windham, N. H., Sept. 5, 1848. Twelve children.

19 I. *Sally*, b. Feb. 20, 1799; md. Oct. 19, 1852, Amherst Coult, son of Dr. Amherst and Miriam (Giddings) Coult. He was a farmer in Auburn, N. H., where he d. April 12, 1884; she resides at the homestead.

20 II. *Mary W.*, b. Nov. 3, 1800; d. unmd. Jan. 18, 1839.

21 III. *Edward P.*, b. Nov. 17, 1802; graduate Dartmouth College 1826. Principal of Academy, Brad-

ford, Vt., and Chesterfield, N. H. Subsequently practised law in Vermont and after 1836 in Avon, Mich. In 1867 he was a member of State Constitutional Convention. He md. June 29, 1829, Eliza Wright, dau. of David Wright of Hartford, Vt.; she d. Sept. 1, 1834. He d. March 19, 1868. They had one son, Hon. Edward Wright Pratt, formerly a law partner of U. S. Senator Omer D. Conger of Michigan, and subsequently a Judge of the Sixteenth Judicial District of Michigan; resides at Port Huron.

22 IV. *Samuel*, b. Dec. 7, 1804; a printer in Boston with residence at Melrose. He md. Jan. 16, 1832, Mary Hall of Boston. He d. May 6, 1860. Seven children.

23 V. *John M.*, b. Oct. 18, 1806; a graduate Amherst College 1839; resided in Nashua, N. H., until 1843, and subsequently he was a farmer in Fitchburg. He was a deacon of the Calvinistic Congregational church of Fitchburg. He md. June 10, 1841, Betsey Merriam, dau. of Jonathan and Betsey (Harris) Merriam, number 8 of this register. He d. July 26, 1877. Their son, Edward A., d. in Fitchburg Sept. 3, 1885, and their son Charles C. Harris, a reporter for *The Sentinel*, is well known in Fitchburg.

24 VI. *Jacob*, b. Sept. 30, 1809; resided in Windham, N. H., where he d. July 5, 1861. He md. June 10, 1852, Rufina Merrill, b. April 12, 1816, dau. of Amos and Mehitable (Smith) Merrill. One daughter.

25 VII. *Lydia K.*, b. Feb. 21, 1813; md. Dec. 17, 1835, Stephen Dearborn of Auburn, N. H. She d., *s. p.*, Aug. 18, 1852.

26 VIII. *William*, b. March 19, 1815; d. Oct. 5, 1817.

27 IX. *Elizabeth*, b. March 5, 1817; md. March 20, 1849, James Underhill, b. Feb. 20, 1822, son of James and Elizabeth (Chase) Underhill of Auburn, N. H. She d. Sept. 22, 1853, leaving one son, George C. Underhill, who resides in Unadilla, Neb.

28 X. *Luther*, b. Sept. 11, 1820; d. unmd. in Marlboro', N. H., where he was teaching, Oct. 1, 1841.

29 XI. *William C.*, b. Dec. 14, 1822; resides on the homestead in Windham, N. H.; a member of Legislature 1865, and has been much employed in town affairs. He md. June 23, 1853, Philena

H. Dinsmore, b. Oct. 3, 1831, dau. of Dea. Samuel and Hannah (Blanchard) Dinsmore of Auburn, N. H. Three children. Of these, William S. Harris has published an accurate and intelligent sketch of the descendants of Dea. Jacob Harris.

30 XII. *Lucinda*, b. June 10, 1824; d. April 27, 1825.

31 NATHANIEL HARRIS, son of Richard and Martha (Foster) Harris, was b. in Harvard April 4, 1752, and came to Ashburnham previous to the Revolution. He was in the company of minute-men commanded by Capt. Jonathan Gates in 1775. *Vide* page 142. He settled on Main street in the Central Village, where Nahum Wood now resides, where he was a tanner and was succeeded by Capt. David Cushing and Levi Adams. In 1779 he was one of the Committee of Correspondence and at other times he was called to assist in town affairs. He removed in 1798 to Brandon, Vt., where he d. June 21, 1831. He md. March 12, 1778, Abigail Harris, b. in Shrewsbury July 1, 1756, dau. of Daniel and Jerusha Harris. When married she was styled "of Ashburnham," but I find no evidence that her parents ever resided in this town. She d. March 5, 1826. Eight of their nine children were b. and bap. in this town.

32 I. *Nathaniel*, b. Dec. 20, 1778; he was a merchant in Williston, Vt.; md. May 16, 1802, Sally Ives. He d. Nov. 6, 1830; she d. Jan. 13, 1826. One child.

33 II. *Rufus*, b. Sept. 27, 1781; a farmer, merchant and postmaster in Bridport, Vt., where he d. March 30, 1827. He md. April 7, 1807, Mary Cloyes, b. in Framingham July 22, 1785, dau. of Peter and Polly (Nixon) Cloyes and a niece of Capt. Elijah Cloyes an early settler in Fitzwilliam, N. H. She d. Sept. 8, 1849. Four children.

34 III. *Richard*, b. Nov. 8, 1783; a merchant in Brandon, Vt. He md. June 28, 1807, Hannah H. Goodnow, dau. of Daniel Goodnow of Rutland. He d. Aug. 22, 1821; she d. Dec. 12, 1867. Five children.

35 IV. *Otis*, b. Jan. 22, 1786; d. May 21, 1805.

36 V. *Nabby*, b. June 13, 1788; d. May 4, 1805.

37 VI. *Lucinda*, b. Sept. 23, 1791; d. May 9, 1805.

38 VII. *Matilda*, b. Feb. 8, 1795; d. May 2, 1805.

39 VIII. *Rebecca*, b. Sept. 7, 1797; d. July 17, 1803.

40 IX. *Sarah B.*, b. Dec. 23, 1800; d. July 12, 1803.

41 WILLIAM HARRIS, son of George Harris, was b. 1763. It is tradition that he was a son of George Harris of Concord. A prolonged search has not discovered a record of his birth and his first marriage. About 1796 with his wife Betsey and an infant son he settled in the northwest part of this town, adjacent to the line of Winchendon. His wife d. June 6, 1807, aged, says Mr. Cushing, "between 40 and 50 years." He md. (2d) 1808, Rebecca (Weston) Ingalls, dau. of Charles and Rebecca (Potter) Weston; md. (3d) widow Hannah Edwards of Ashby. In 1820 he removed over the line into Winchendon, where he d. July 5, 1837. Hannah, his wife, d. April 9, 1837.

42 I. *Humphrey*, b. in Concord, March 28, 1795.+

43 II. *Jonathan*, b. June 20, 1798; md. Sally Howe, b. Sept. 18, 1801, dau. of Perley and Jane T. (Belcher) Howe of Gardner. He resided in Ashburnham, Rindge and Gardner. There were several children but no record has been received.

44 III. *William*, b. Aug. 28, 1799.+

45 IV. *Reuben*, b. Sept. 2, 1801; resided in Winchendon. He was enterprising in business and prominent in town affairs. He md. Rowena Woodbury, dau. of Col. Jacob B. and Hannah (Roberts) Woodbury. He d. June 4, 1873; his widow d. June 14, 1883. Their son, Jacob B. Harris, represented the district of Ashburnham and Winchendon in the Legislature 1858.

46 V. *Amos*, b. Sept. 26, 1803; removed to New York.

47 VI. *Betsey*, b. ——; md. —— Sargent, and removed to the West.

48 VII. *Mary*, b. ——; md. John Estey of Winchendon.

49 VIII. *Lucy*, b. ——; md. —— Conant.

(42) HUMPHREY HARRIS, son of William, was a Methodist preacher. *Vide* page 512. He md. Feb. 28, 1815, Mary Willard, dau. of Silas Willard, Esq., *q. v.* While temporarily employed by his brother Reuben in Winchendon he was killed by a falling tree.

50 I. *Humphrey*, b. March 19, 1815.+

51 II. *Cynthia*, b. Jan. 8, 1817; md. Sept. 5, 1846, Albert Richardson.

52 III. *Lysander B.*, b. Dec. 30, 1823. He was of the firm Eaton & Harris, manufacturers of spools and match stock, and for twenty-five years has resided in New York State.

(44) William Harris, son of William, md. July 2, 1823, Hepsibah Flint, b. May 12, 1795, dau. of Nathan Flint of Winchendon. He was a farmer and rebuilt the house occupied by his father in this town. He d. Nov. 9, 1867; his wife d. Dec. 28, 1858. Six children.

53 i. *Minerva N.*, b. July 22, 1824; md. Elvirous Waters; he d. in Winchendon; she d. in Athol Oct. 20, 1862.

54 ii. *Martha*, b. May 18, 1826; d. Oct. 14, 1844.

55 iii. *Elbridge N.*, b. Oct. 23, 1828; resided in Athol and now in Lawrence. For many years he has been connected with the Rodney Hunt Machine Company at Orange, and is treasurer of the Corporation. He has been a deacon of First Baptist church in Lawrence twelve years. He md. March 19, 1851, —— Merriam.

56 iv. *Charles H.*, b. May 25, 1830. He resides at Jamaica, Long Island, N. Y., where he has been a station agent thirty-one years. He is a deacon of the Congregational church in Jamaica. He md. Dec. 17, 1851, Sarah Woods of Fitchburg.

57 v. *William Watson*, b. Nov. 2, 1832; d. Nov. 13, 1847.

58 vi. *Frank N.*, b. March 21, 1836; md. April 30, 1862, Elmira C. Davis, dau. of Dea. John C. Davis, *q. v.* He d. at Jamaica, Long Island, Sept. 20, 1869; his widow resides in this town.

59 1. Arthur E., b. July 4, 1863; resides in this town.

(50) Humphrey Harris, son of Humphrey, md. March 8, 1838, Emeline W. Clark, dau. of Levi Clark, *q. v.* She d. June 29, 1880; he md. (2d) Aug. 17, 1881, Mrs. Susan (Marvin) Stearns of Westminster. He is a farmer in the northwest part of the town.

60 i. *Mary*, b. Jan. 24, 1839; md. Jan. 22, 1873, Sidney W. Benjamin, son of Stillman D. Benjamin, *q. v.*

61 ii. *Harriet L.*, b. Sept. 20, 1841; unmd.; resides in Worcester.

62 iii. *Frances*, b. Aug. 6, 1843; d. Feb. 27, 1846.

63 iv. *Charles F.*, b. Nov. 30, 1848; md. May 13, 1879, Aletia R. Wilder, b. Sept. 20, 1853, dau. of John R. and Sarah A. (Stewart) Wilder of Ashby. Resides on the homestead.

64 v. *George F.*, b. Oct. 22, 1854; md. Oct. 13, 1886, Edith C. Wood of Winchendon.

65 JOSEPH HARRIS, a son of Joseph Harris of Acton, was b. Jan. 28, 1780. He md. April 7, 1829, Sarah A. (Russell) Cutter, dau. of Thomas Russell, *q. v.*, and widow of Ephraim Cutter, *q. v.* He resided on the Samuel Wilder or Phillips farm, now owned by his son Joseph H. Harris, and commonly called the Harris place. He d. July 29, 1886.

66 I. *Susan R.*, b. April 3, 1830; md. Jan. 12, 1860, Samuel D. Holt, son of Abiel Holt, *q. v.*
67 II. *Joseph H.*, b. Dec. 25, 1832.+
68 III. *Ellen Maria*, b. May 20, 1834.
69 IV. *James R.*, b. Nov. 19, 1835; d. July 12, 1837.
70 V. *Harriet R.*, b. July 20, 1838; md. Oct. 14, 1876, William B. Prouty of Spencer.

(67) JOSEPH H. HARRIS md. April 22, 1868, Martha J. Perrin of Orfordville, N. H. He resides in Central Village.

71 I. *Mary E.*, b. Aug. 29, 1869.

HASTINGS.

The name of Hastings has been constant in this town since 1783. The first of the name in Ashburnham were of the fifth generation in New England. The emigrant ancestor Thomas Hastings, aged 29, and wife Susanna embarked from Ipswich, England, April 10, 1634, and settled in Watertown. The following year he was admitted freeman and he was subsequently a selectman twenty-eight years. He was town clerk and a representative and for many years a deacon of the church in Watertown. His wife Susanna d. Feb. 2, 1650, and he md. (2d) April, 1651, Margaret Cheney, dau. of William and Martha Cheney of Roxbury, who was the mother of all his children. He d. 1685, aged 80 years.

Samuel, the youngest of the eight children of Dea. Thomas and Margaret (Cheney) Hastings, was b. March 12, 1665. He md. Jan. 1, 1687, Lydia Church, dau. of Caleb and Joanna (Sprague) Church. She was b. in Dedham July 4, 1661, and d. at the age of thirty years. He md. (2d) April 24, 1694, Elizabeth Nevison, b. Oct. 22, 1675, dau. of John and Elizabeth Nevison. She d. 1700. He md. (3d) July 10, 1701, Sarah Coolidge, dau. of Simon and Hannah (Barron) Coolidge. He also resided in Watertown, where he d. 1722 or 1723. His widow d. 1724.

Nathaniel, youngest of the seven children of Samuel Hastings, was a son of the third wife. He md. April 16, 1734, Esther Perry, dau. of Samuel and Margaret (Traine) Perry. They removed to the North Parish of Shrewsbury, now Boylston. Of the six children of Samuel Hastings, the eldest son was Samuel Hastings, Jr., b. in Shrewsbury 1735; md. Oct. 26, 1757, Anna Bigelow, dau. of Joseph and Martha (Brigham) Bigelow. They removed to Princeton about 1759, where he d. Sept. 9, 1823, aged 88 years. Of their four sons two, Charles and Ezra, removed to this town.

1 CAPT. CHARLES HASTINGS, son of Samuel and Anna (Bigelow) Hastings, was b. in Princeton Nov. 26, 1760. He md. June 3, 1782, Anna Woods, dau. of Samuel and Tabitha Woods, and removed to Ashburnham 1783. He was an honest man and a good citizen. His service in the Revolution is stated in Chap. VI. He d. Nov. 28, 1850. His wife d. Dec. 19, 1825.

2 I. *Betsey*, b. Nov. 25, 1782; md. March 16, 1805, David Randall, *q. v.*; md. (2d) 1808, Joseph Spaulding, *q. v.*; md. (3d) Joel Conant of Acton.
3 II. *Ezra*, b. Dec. 4, 1784; d. Sept. 13, 1801.
4 III. *John*, b. Sept. 18, 1787.+
5 IV. *Anna B.*, b. Feb. 19, 1790; md. Asa Sawtell, *q. v.*
6 V. *Sally*, b. June 2, 1792; md. Col. Charles Barrett, *q. v.*
7 VI. *Lydia*, b. Dec. 21, 1794; md. Joshua Stowell, *q. v.*
8 VII. *Samuel*, b. July 10, 1797; d. Dec. 23, 1803.
9 VIII. *Charles*, b. June 16, 1800.+
10 IX. *Leonard Woods*, b. Aug. 14, 1803.+
11 X. *Joseph B.*, b. Aug. 11, 1805.+

(4) JOHN HASTINGS was a model citizen, loyal to the interests of his town and exact and honorable in all his dealings with his fellowmen. He filled many positions of trust and was the sexton many years. He md. Nov. 4, 1810, Sarah Green, b. Dec. 9, 1792, dau. of Oliver and Dorothy (Hildreth) Green, *q. v.* She d. Nov. 20, 1822; he md. (2d) Oct. 6, 1823, Melinda Bolles of Westminster, Vt., b. Feb. 16, 1800. He d. Aug. 25, 1879. There were seven children by the first and ten by the second marriage.

12 I. *Julia Augusta*, b. Sept. 3, 1811; md. March 24, 1836, James H. Laws of Westminster, son of James and Thankful Laws. She d. Nov. 19, 1885.
13 II. *Infant*, b. and d. Nov. 1, 1813.
14 III. *Mary Coolidge*, b. March 20, 1815; md. June 11, 1840, William Baker of Gardner, now of Philadelphia; she d. July 28, 1864.
15 IV. *Infant*, b. Jan. 3, 1817; d. Jan. 7, 1817.
16 V. *John Newton*, b. March 1, 1818.+
17 VI. *Sarah Hildreth*, b. March 4, 1821; md. Albert T. Bemis, *q. v.*
18 VII. *Rebecca Elizabeth*, b. July 27, 1822; d. Dec. 14, 1823.
19 VIII. *Infant*, b. May 22, 1824; d. May 23, 1824.

20 IX. *Rebecca Elizabeth*, b. May 1, 1825; d. Sept. 24, 1844.
21 X. *Infant*, b. Dec. 6, 1826; d. Dec. 7, 1826.
22 XI. *Anna Melinda*, b. Feb. 1, 1828; d. unmd. Sept. 23, 1853.
23 XII. *Leonard*, b. Feb. 19, 1830; md. 1860, Sarah F. Manning of Templeton; d. in this town May 2, 1872. There were three children.
24 XIII. *Charles Lyman*, b. May 20, 1832; d, Jan. 10, 1839.
25 XIV. *Stephen Cushing*, b. Dec. 4, 1834.+
26 XV. *Caroline Amelia*, b. June 4, 1838; d. July 31, 1864.
27 XVI. *Martha Jane*, b. June 12, 1840; md. March 21, 1874, John S. Woods, son of John Woods, *q.v.*
28 XVII. *Infant*, b. Feb. 16, d. Feb. 20, 1844.

(9) CHARLES HASTINGS was a merchant a few years on the old common. In 1830 he sold the farm and the store to Lemuel Stimson and subsequently removed to New Ipswich. He was postmaster of New Ipswich from March 10, 1843, to July 3, 1845. Soon after the last date he returned to his native town and has resided in the Central Village. In age he has manifested infirmities, yet the stronger and better traits of his character have not been obscured. Through life he has been tenacious in controversy and equally constant in his attachments and friendship. To the memory of the dead whom he has respected and loved his heart is responsive and his works are characteristic of his best and warmest impulses. Recognizing the elevated character of Col. Joseph Jewett he supplemented his gift of land and buildings to Cushing Academy with the memorial name of Jewett Hall. He md. Dec. 15, 1824, Susan Wellington Hill, dau. of Isaac Hill, *q. v.*; she d. Dec. 17, 1870.

(10) LEONARD W. HASTINGS md. 1832, Elvira Burrows of New Ipswich; md. (2d) Martha Colburn of Temple. He resided in this town a few years and later in New Ipswich, where he d. April 11, 1882.

(11) JOSEPH B. HASTINGS md. Nov. 21, 1827, Adaline Woods, dau. of Asa Woods, *q. v.* He resided in this town until 1853, when he removed to Brookline, where he d. Sept. 28, 1883. His widow resides in West Berlin.

29 I. *Mary W.*, b. Nov. 13, 1828; md. Sept. 2, 1847, Milton J. Scollay, son of Grover Scollay, *q. v.*

30 II. *Adaline*, b. July 4, d. July 18, 1833.
31 III. *Joseph Henry*, b. Oct. 23, 1834; d. Nov. 9, 1855.
32 IV. *Levi W.*, b. May 11, 1840; md. Sept 27, 1863, Abbie J. Goldsmith, dau. of George W. and Ruth (Hutchins) Goldsmith; resides in Brookline.
33 V. *Herbert Eugene*, b. Aug. 28, 1846; md. 1868, —— Kemp; resides in Jamaica Plain.

(16) JOHN N. HASTINGS md. Sept. 25, 1838, Sarah Rice Taylor, dau. of Ephraim Taylor, *q. v.* He has been a deacon of the Congregational church since 1870. He resides on Chapel street.

34 I. *Charles Newton*, b. Oct. 10, 1846; d. Aug. 22, 1867.

(25) STEPHEN C. HASTINGS md. Jan. 29, 1853, Emily N. Stowell, dau. of Moses Stowell, *q. v.* He is a merchant in Providence, R. I.

35 I. *Abbie Augusta*, b. May 9, 1853.
36 II. *Anna Maria*, b. Feb. 16, 1855; md. Charles Stebbins; d. in New Haven, Conn., March 3, 1884.
37 III. *Ella*, b. Aug. 12, 1860.
38 IV. *Charles Lyman*, b. Jan. 25, 1872; d. May 26, 1879.

39 EZRA HASTINGS, a brother of Capt. Charles Hastings, b. 1772, md. Sept. 3, 1796, Polly Mirick of Princeton. At the time of his marriage, or previously, he settled in this town. He d., *felo de se*, Feb. 14, 1815. The widow and children removed to Indiana.

40 I. *James Mirick*, b. July 28, 1796, according to the record.
41 II. *Stephen*, b. May 2, 1798.
42 III. *Polly*, b. July 14, 1800; d. Oct. 19, 1801.
43 IV. *Amos*, b. Sept. 24, 1802.
44 V. *Mary*, b. Jan. 8, 1807.
45 VI. *Louisa*.

46 NATHANIEL HASTINGS, of another family, with wife Jemima removed to this town in 1771. He was in Capt. Davis' company 1775, and probably removed from town soon after that date.

47 i. *Amasa*, b. Oct. 19, 1772.
48 ii. *Sylvanus*, b. Dec. 24, 1773.
49 iii. *Azubah*, bap. Aug. 27, 1775.

HAVEN.

The Havens of this town were from Hopkinton, and are descendants of Richard Haven, who with wife Susannah emigrated from the west of England and settled in Lynn in 1644 or 1645. They had twelve children all b. in Lynn. The mother d. Feb. 7, 1682, and Richard, the father, d. between May 21, 1701, the date of his will, and June 14, 1703, when it was proved. Nathaniel Haven, son of Richard the emigrant, was b. June 30, 1664, and by wife Elizabeth had ten children. He resided in Lynn and later in Framingham, where he d. 1746, aged 82. He was a town officer in Framingham and a man of influence. Nathaniel Haven, son of Nathaniel and Elizabeth Haven, b. in Framingham Sept. 8, 1704, md. June 10, 1724, Hepsibah Rugg and removed to Hopkinton, where he md. (2d) Dec. 7, 1741, Abigail (Clark) Rice, widow of Jason Rice of Sudbury; and (3d) 1753, Hannah Ware. He d. 1763, aged 59 years. Among the seven children of Nathaniel and Hepsibah (Rugg) Haven was Jonathan Haven of Ashburnham.

1 JONATHAN HAVEN, son of Nathaniel and Hepsibah (Rugg) Haven, was b. in Hopkinton April 29, 1728. He md. Aug. 24, 1749, Elizabeth Haven. They resided in Hopkinton, where their children were b., until about 1785 when he removed to this town and settled where his grandsons Jonas and Elijah Haven now live. He d. July 30, 1791; his widow d. May 7, 1809.

2 i. *Jerusha*, b. June 1, 1750.
3 ii. *Lois*, b. June 27, 1753; d. unmd. in Ashburnham June 21, 1820.
4 iii. *Hezekiah*, b. Oct. 1, 1755.
5 iv. *Elizabeth*, b. Sept. 15, 1757; md. 1778, James Stone of Southboro'. They removed to Fitzwilliam, N. H., about 1781, where she lived to an advanced age. Nine children.
6 v. *Hepsibah*, b. Sept. 3, 1759.
7 vi. *Jonathan*, b. July 31, 1765.+
8 vii. *John*, b. Aug. 31, 1767.+

(7) JONATHAN HAVEN md. April 8, 1792, Zerviah Rice, dau. of Jason and Susannah (Haven) Rice of Hopkinton. She d. Sept. 8, 1821; he md. (2d) Nov. 13, 1822, Saloma Withington, b. in Fitzwilliam, N. H., Jan. 5, 1787, dau. of William and Martha (Locke) Withington. She d. Feb. 19, 1842, aged 55 years. He d. Jan. 7, 1837.

9 i. *Betsey*, b. May 24, 1793; md. Nathaniel D. Ward, *q. v.*
10 ii. *Susannah*, b. March 13, 1795; d. April 19, 1795.
11 iii. *Jonathan*, b. April 18, 1796; d. Nov. 22, 1813.

(8) JOHN HAVEN md. Sept. 23, 1804, Anna Wood, dau. of Jonas Wood of Fitzwilliam, N. H. She d. June 3, 1821; he md. (2d) Oct. 1, 1821, Betsey Blodgett. He was a farmer in this town. He d. Dec. 25, 1830; his widow d. 1857.

12 I. *Jonas*, b. Sept., 1806; md. June 24, 1852, Emeline Fassett of Fitzwilliam, N. H. A farmer, residing near his brother, Elijah Haven, on the homestead.

13 II. *Lois*, b. July 31, 1809; unmd.; resides in this town.

14 III. *Elijah*, b. Feb. 17, 1812; md. April 3, 1842, Nancy Ward, dau. of Nathaniel D. Ward, *q. v.* They have three children by adoption.

15 1. Augustus O., b. Jan. 18, 1846; d. Jan. 17, 1855.

16 2. Charles Abbott, b. Oct. 10, 1853; md. July 12, 1873, Mary E. Lane, dau. of Amos F. Lane, *q. v.* He d. Oct. 17, 1883.

17 3. Anna Dawn, b. May 5, 1871.

18 IV. *Jerusha*, b. Sept. 30, 1815; d. July 17, 1819.

1 NEWTON HAYDEN, b. in Groton Dec. 5, 1827, son of Luther and Betsey (Austin) Hayden, lived in this town about thirty years and removed to Fitchburg in 1876. He was a merchant several years and was town clerk five years. He md. April 5, 1849, Sarah A. Whitney, dau. of William Whitney, *q. v.*

2 I. *Ella Mercy*, b. Dec. 29, 1849; md. 1872, Charles A. Smith.

3 II. *William P.* b. July 14, 1852.

4 III. *Minnie Belle*, b. Nov. 2, 1868.

1 EDWIN HAYWARD, son of Stephen and Mehitable (Rich) Hayward, was b. in Worcester Dec. 20, 1821. Stephen Hayward, the father, d. Nov. 22, 1835, and she md. (2d) Abraham Dwinnell and d. in this town May 31, 1862. Edwin Hayward removed to Ashburnham 1837. Subsequently he was foreman in the employ of Burrage Bros., and during the past twenty years he has been in the lumber and meat business. He came to Ashburnham unmarried and has maintained his position.

1 HARVEY HEALD, son of John Heald, was b. in Shirley Sept. 20, 1797. He resided successively in Hinsdale, Lanesboro', Royalston and Ashburnham. He removed to this town 1836, where he d. March 12, 1867. He md. Nov. 9, 1826, Susan Kibling, dau. of Henry Kibling, *q. v.*

2 I. *George*, b. Aug. 15, 1827.+

3 II. *Newton*, b. May 6, 1831; md. Feb. 9, 1857, Sarah Elizabeth Gilson. He d. in this town Jan. 27, 1860.

4 III. *Henry*, b. April 5, 1833; md. Feb. 19, 1853, Mary E. Lovell. He d. in this town Aug. 26, 1854.

5 IV. *Susan*, b. Nov. 8, 1834; d. June 24, 1836.

6 V. *Charles Harvey*, b. Jan. 17, 1836; md. Sept. 10, 1867, Cornelia E. Haywood. He is a carpenter and resides in Northampton. He served through the war of the Rebellion and was promoted to first lieutenant. He was twice wounded, and was a prisoner four months within the rebel lines.

7 VI. *Lewis Brigham*, b. March 5, 1839; md. Oct. 12, 1867, Mary Sophia Remick. He is a carpenter in St. Johnsbury, Vt. He served in the war of the Rebellion, participating in the Mississippi campaign, the siege of Vicksburg and Sherman's grand march to the sea.

(2) GEORGE HEALD is one of the few representatives of the Kibling family remaining in this town. He is a farmer and resides in Lane Village on the homestead of his father and by two generations of the Kibling family. He md. March 8, 1860, Lucia A. Williams.

8 I. *Lewis B.*, b. June 8, 1863.

9 II. *Susan Ellen*, b. Dec. 3, 1871.

1 EBENEZER HEMENWAY, a resident of Ashburnham, was the son of Rev. Phinehas and Sarah (Stevens) Hemenway, and was b. in Townsend. He was bap. March 14, 1735, but there is no record of his birth. Rev. Phinehas Hemenway, the father, son of Joshua and Rebecca Hemenway of Framingham, was the first minister of Townsend. Ebenezer Hemenway settled in Ashburnham as early as 1758. He resided at the old common, and during the later years of his life he succeeded Dea. Moses Foster as an innholder. He was frequently elected to office and his name is familiar to the readers of the early annals of Ashburnham. He md. Nov. 23, 1758, Elizabeth Moore.

He d. Dec. 10, 1776, aged about 42 years. His widow d. in this town April 16, 1788.

2 I. *Phinehas*, b. 1762; md. July 10, 1787, Mary Conn, dau. of John Conn, *q. v.* He was a Revolutionary soldier. An infant, aged three years, d. here Jan. 2, 1792. A continued record has not been secured.

3 II. *Ebenezer*, b. 1764.

4 III. *Lucy*, b. 1765; md. Capt. John Scollay, *q. v.*

5 IV. *Moses Foster*, b. March 10, 1768.

6 V. *Levi*, b. Jan. 15, 1770; d. April 19, 1772.

7 JOSHUA HEMENWAY resided a few years in this town. He was in the Revolutionary service and upon the rolls of Capt. Gates' and Capt. Wilder's companies his residence is stated. He removed from town soon after and left no additional record. It is probable that he was a younger brother of Ebenezer Hemenway.

1 REV. SHUBEL R. HERRICK, son of Zimri and Mary (Brigham) Herrick and a grandson of Shadrach and Abigail (Stoddard) Herrick, was b. in Chesterfield, N. H., Aug. 27, 1820. He md. April 13, 1848, Lucy A. Shattuck, b. June 23, 1817, dau. of Thomas C. Shattuck of Pepperell. She d. July 28, 1872; he md. (2d) April 27, 1874, Eliza J. Baker, dau. of Bradish Baker, *q. v.*; she d. March 29, 1877; he md. (3d) Dec. 26, 1877, Hannah Towne Wesson, b. Jan. 21, 1823, dau. of Asa Wesson of Phillipston. He studied theology with Rev. Elisha Andrews of Hinsdale, N. H., and was ordained at Keene, N. H., June 4, 1842. He has been settled over churches in Rockport, Pepperell and Groton, and in Keene, Claremont and Peterborough, N. H. He has preached more recently as stated supply, and is now a farmer in this town.

2 I. *Mary Caroline*, b. March 5, 1849; md. 1869, Alonzo Blood, son of Edward F. Blood of Pepperell. She d. Jan. 7, 1876, leaving a dau., Minnie C., b. May 17, 1876.

3 NOYES B. HERRICK, a brother of Rev. Shubel R., was b. in Chesterfield, N. H., Sept. 11, 1833; md. Sarah E. Whitney; she d. Dec. 5, 1872; md. (2d) Aug. 3, 1873, Lucy C. Ellis, dau. of Jesse Ellis, *q. v.*; she d. July 15, 1883; md. (3d) Nov. 27, 1884, Lydia F. (Weld) Cummings, dau. of Daniel and Mary Weld. He is a farmer and mechanic.

4 RAWSON B. HERRICK, a brother of Rev. Shubel and Noyes B. Herrick, was b. in Chesterfield, N. H., June 28, 1829. He md. Nov. 27, 1853, Juliaett Cook, b. in Chesterfield, N. H., Feb. 5, 1833, dau. of Mark and Mille (Stoddard) Cook. Resides in this town.

1 ZIMRI HEYWOOD, son of Nathan and Esther (Willis) Heywood of Lunenburg, was b. Sept. 5, 1731, and according to the record of his birth on "Sabbath day the sun about half an hour high at night." He was an early settler of Ashburnham and his name is frequently mentioned in the early chapters of this volume. Nathan Heywood of Lunenburg and Fitchburg was a brother of Zimri and was many years one of the proprietors of the township and clerk of the propriety. Zimri Heywood md. June 5, 1756, Jane Foster, dau. of Dea. Moses Foster, *q. v.* When Ashby was incorporated in 1767 his farm and mill were included in that town. He removed a few years later to Winslow, Me., where he d.

2 I. *Rebecca Willis*, b. Jan. 9, 1757.
3 II. *Eunice*, b. June 16, 1760.
4 III. *Nathan*, b. March 15, 1762.
5 IV. *Elizabeth*, b. May 20, 1764.
6 V. *Thomas*, b. May 5, 1766.

HILL.

The American ancestry of the Hill family, of which Gov. Isaac Hill of New Hampshire is an illustrious representative, is found in Paige's History of Cambridge and also in Wyman's Genealogies and Estates of Charlestown. For valuable supplementary record I am indebted to Horatio Hill, Esq., of Chicago, who was formerly a resident of this town.

Abraham Hill, b. 1615, is found in Charlestown 1636. He was admitted freeman May 13, 1640. He was one of a committee of ten, appointed by the County Commissioners, to determine what bridges should be built and maintained, and May 15, 1657, they reported in relation to the Mystic River Bridge. He resided in the part of Charlestown now included in Malden, where he d. Feb. 13, 1669–70. Inventory of estate £633. He md. Sarah Long, b. 1617, dau. of Robert Long who embarked from Dunstable, Bedfordshire, England, in 1635. Zechary Hill, son of Abraham and Sarah (Long) Hill, b. probably about 1645, md. Sept. 24, 1668, Deborah Norton, dau. of Capt. Francis and Mary Norton of Charlestown. He d. early and his widow md. (2d) Matthew Griffin and d. 1698.

Abraham Hill, son of Zechary (not a son of Abraham, Jr., as assumed by Paige), was b. 1672; resided in Charlestown and removed to Cambridge, where he d. March 9, 1746. He md. Sarah Cooper, dau. of Timothy Cooper of Groton. She d. March 30, 1752. Zechariah Hill, son of Abraham and Sarah (Cooper) Hill, b. 1708, md. Feb. 10, 1731–2, Rebecca Cutter, dau. of Dea. John and Lydia Cutter. He resided in Cambridge, now Arlington, where he was committee man and assessor; he d. March 10, 1768; his widow md. (2d) Dec. 11, 1770, Samuel Carter and d. Feb. 1, 1797. Abraham Hill, son of Zechariah and Rebecca (Cutter) Hill, b. about 1734, md. Feb. 16,

1758, Susannah Wellington, dau. of Thomas Wellington of Cambridge. He resided in Cambridge, now Arlington, and was a soldier in the French and Indian wars, and of the Revolution. He d. Dec. 16, 1812; his wife d. 1797. Among the seven children of Abraham and Susannah (Wellington) Hill was Isaac Hill who removed to Ashburnham.

1 Isaac Hill, son of Abraham and Susannah (Wellington) Hill, was b. in Cambridge Precinct, now Arlington, May 8, 1766; he md. Hannah Russell, b. Feb. 8, 1772, dau. of Walter and Hannah (Adams) Russell. *Vide* Adams and Russell registers. They resided in Charlestown a year or more after their marriage, then in Cambridge Precinct and removed to Ashburnham with five children in 1797. He purchased the farm of Ethan Wetherbee, who md. a dau. of Capt. Thomas Adams. The farm was a part of the original Cambridge grant in the southeast part of the town. It now constitutes a part of the estate of the late Ward Russell. Disposing of the farm in 1819 the family removed to the Central Village. He d. Dec. 23, 1843; she d. March 1, 1847. A monument erected by Charles and Susan W. (Hill) Hastings marks their resting place in the old cemetery.

2 i. *Isaac*, b. April 6, 1788.+
3 ii. *Walter Russell*, b. Feb. 22, 1790.+
4 iii. *Hannah Russell*, b. Oct. 31, 1792; md. George R. Cushing, Esq., *q. v.*
5 iv. *Sultina*, b. June 2, 1795; md. Reuben Townsend, Esq., *q. v.*
6 v. *Susan Wellington*, b. Oct. 3, 1797; md. Charles Hastings, *q. v.*
7 vi. *Mary Adams*, b. July 10, 1800; md. Aug. 26, 1820, Jacob Bailey Moore.+
8 vii. *George Washington*, b. Jan. 4, 1804.+
9 viii. *Horatio*, b. March 19, 1807.+
10 ix. *Rebecca Russell*, b. July 3, 1810; md. Hon. John R. Reding.+

(2) Hon. Isaac Hill md. Feb. 2, 1814, Susan Ayer, dau. of Capt. Richard Ayer of Concord, N. H., who d. June 17, 1881. No name is more potent or familiar in the political annals of New Hampshire than that of Isaac Hill. A sketch of his eminent service appears in Chap. XX. He d. at Washington, D. C., March 22, 1851, and was buried at Concord, N. H.

11 i. *William Pickering*, b. Oct. 18, 1819; md. Oct. 26, 1843, Clara Ann West, b. Dec. 17, 1820, dau. of John West, Jr., of Concord. Resides

in Concord; was many years New Hampshire correspondent of Boston *Herald*.

12 II. *John McClary*, b. Nov. 5, 1821; md. Nov. 15, 1843, Elizabeth Lord Chace. Resides in Concord. He was Democratic candidate for Governor of New Hampshire 1884.

13 III. *Georgiana Toscan*, b. Oct. 1, 1824; d. Sept. 12, 1825.

14 IV. *Isaac Andrew*, b. Sept. 16, 1827; md. Oct. 5, 1858, Sarah Ann Sanderson, born Sept. 19, 1839, dau. of Charles C. and Amanda (Stevens) Sanderson. He resides in Concord, and many years was Register of Probate for county of Merrimack.

(3) WALTER RUSSELL HILL served an apprenticeship with his brother, Hon. Isaac Hill, and in 1811 a business partnership was formed under the firm name of I. and W. R. Hill, commencing with the 105th number of the *Patriot*. In a few years he manifested increasing evidences of mental alienation which terminated in hopeless insanity. For very nearly thirty years he was an inmate of an insane asylum. He d. unmd. at Concord, N. H., Dec. 8, 1855.

(7) JACOB BAILEY MOORE md. Aug. 26, 1820, Mary Adams Hill. He was born in Andover, N. H., 1797. From 1819 to 1823 he was a partner of Gov. Hill in the publication of the *Patriot*. In 1826, in connection with a brother Henry E. Moore, he established the New Hampshire *Journal* which, five years later, was consolidated with the *Statesman and Register*. The *Patriot* of Gov. Hill and the *Journal* of Mr. Moore, representing the adherents of Jackson and of Adams, reflected the vigor of the political sentiment of that period, sparing neither plain speech nor curt repartee for the sake of relationship. He was Register of Deeds and Sheriff of Merrimack county. Subsequently he resided and labored in New York, Washington and San Francisco, being postmaster of San Francisco from 1849 to 1852. In the midst of other labor he responded to a genuine love for historical research, and his publications in connection with John Farmer remain an enduring monument. He d. Sept. 1, 1853. Mrs. Moore d. Feb. 13, 1886. She was a lady of rare accomplishments and many excellencies of character. Their children were born at Concord.

15 i. *Lucretia*, md. Warren Osborn, an importer and dealer in India goods in San Francisco. He d. ——. She resides in New York.

16 ii. *George Henry*, md. 1850, Mary Richards; resides in New York. George H. Moore, LL. D., is Librarian of Lenox Library.

17 iii. *Charles Carrol*, md. Maria Coddington.

18 iv. *Frank*, md. Laura Bailey; he is author of *Rebellion Record*.

19 v. *Jacob Bailey*.

20 vi. *Mary*, md. Edward Jones and d. in California.

(8) George Washington Hill md. May 20, 1828, Sabrina Woodbury, b. Feb. 4, 1804, dau. of Mark and Alice (Boyd) Woodbury of Antrim, N. H.; she d. May 8, 1856. He established about 1825 at Montpelier, Vt., the *Vermont Patriot* and *State Gazette* which he continued until about 1837. He was postmaster at Montpelier 1829–36. For many years he resided on his farm in Johnson, Vt. He d. March 1, 1887, aged 83 years.

21 i. *Mary Elizabeth*, b. May 6, 1829; d. April 2, 1832.

22 ii. *George Woodbury*, b. July 21, 1831; d. unmd. Dec. 1, 1855.

23 iii. *Mary Dodge*, b. Oct. 3, 1833; d. unmd. Aug. 20, 1854.

24 iv. *Alice Rebecca*, b. Nov. 7, 1837.

25 v. *Susan Sabrina*, b. April 6, 1840; md. July 22, 1863, Morris Christie, M. D., b. Aug. 29, 1832, son of Josiah W. and Mary (Bell) Christie and a nephew of Hon. Daniel M. Christie of Dover, N. H. Dr. Morris resides in Antrim, N. H.

26 vi. *John R. Reding*, b. April 1, 1844; md. Oct. 14, 1873, Asenath M. Sawyer. He is a farmer and a prominent citizen of Johnson, Vt., also treasurer of State Normal School.

(9) Horatio Hill, youngest son of Isaac and Hannah (Russell) Hill, at the age of fourteen years was apprenticed to his brother Isaac and labored in the office of the *Patriot* and in the book-store until he attained his majority. In the meantime he attended the public schools of Concord and was a student one year, 1823, at the Literary Scientific and Military Academy at Norwich, Vt. In 1829, Isaac Hill having been appointed Comptroller of the Treasury, Horatio Hill and Col. Cyrus Barton

purchased the *Patriot* and the book-store and conducted the business under the firm of Horatio Hill & Co. until 1834. In 1837 Mr. Hill removed to New York and during the following six years he was connected with the publishing house of D. Appleton & Co., and subsequently was engaged in the book trade in that city until the close of the year 1849. The ensuing five years cover a residence in California and in Fitchburg, where he is remembered as a deputy-sheriff. During the past thirty years Mr. Hill has resided in Chicago, Ill. A year since he visited his native town and the familiar scenes of his childhood. Horatio Hill md. April 27, 1830, Clarissa Walker Emery, b. Oct. 31, 1810, dau. of Capt. Charles and Polly (Walker) Emery of Concord, N. H.; she died Sept. 19, 1839; he married (2d) April 14, 1841, Elizabeth Lewis Wilds, b. Sept. 24, 1820, dau. of Royal and Sarah (French) Wilds.

27 I. *Sarah Elizabeth*, b. July 31, 1831; md. Jan. 26, 1855, Enoch Gibson Hooke (Dartmouth College 1849); he is a lawyer; Chicago 1854–79; removed to Colorado 1879; now at Colorado Spring, Col. Mrs. Hooke died March 9, 1885.

28 II. *Charles Isaac*, b. Dec. 2, 1833; d. Sept. 24, 1834.

29 III. *Charles*, b. and d. July, 1835.

30 IV. *George Reding*. b. Jan. 23, 1842; d. unmd. June 17, 1864.

31 V. *Clara Rebecca*, b. ——; md. Oct. 3, 1876, Edward H. Buckingham.

32 VI. *Ella Mary*.

33 VII. *Hattie Crocker*, b. ——; d. Sept. 3, 1862.

(10) Hon. John R. Reding, son of John and Mercy S. (Randall) Reding, b. in Portsmouth, N. H., Oct. 18, 1805, md. Oct. 11, 1830, Rebecca Russell Hill. Mr. Reding, having served an apprenticeship with Gov. Hill in the *Patriot* office, established at Haverhill in 1828 the *Democratic Republican*, the first number being issued July 24. He continued a residence in Haverhill until 1853, where he was a selectman, postmaster, and engaged in several business ventures. He built on contract the Court House at Haverhill and the fire-proof accommodations for the county records. In the meantime he was twice elected a Member of Congress 1841–5. His wife d. at Washington Jan. 28, 1844. There is entered on the House Journal Jan. 31, 1844, "On motion of Mr. Burke, by leave, it was unanimously resolved that the speaker be directed to adjourn this House this day at the hour of two

o'clock P. M." The record is followed by an explanation: "This resolution was adopted to enable the members to attend the funeral of Mrs. Rebecca Russell Reding, wife of Mr. John R. Reding, a member of the House from the State of New Hampshire." At this time there had been no precedent for this expression of respect. To the memory of a lady of Ashburnham such tribute was first paid.

Since 1853 Mr. Reding has resided in Portsmouth, N. H. He was a member of the Legislature 1867, '68, '69, and Mayor of the city 1860. In 1840 and again in 1852 he was a delegate to the National Democratic Convention. He md (2d) Jan. 14, 1846, Jane Martin of St. Johnsbury, Vt. No children.

1 DANIEL HILTON was a resident of this town several years. He was a farmer on the farm formerly occupied by William Holbrook on the old road to Winchendon. He removed from this town about 1835. No record of his marriage. The births of eleven children are recorded.

2 I. *Leander*, b. Nov. 7, 1810.
3 II. *Martha Dorinda*, b. May 10, 1812.
4 III. *Leonard*, b. March 13, 1814.
5 IV. *Julia L.*, b. June 25, 1817.
6 V. *Mary Ann*, b. April 2, 1819.
7 VI. *Jane M.*, b. Oct. 7, 1821.
8 VII. *Hiram*, b. Dec. 14, 1823.
9 VIII. *Amanda Sophia*, b. Dec. 31, 1825.
10 IX. *Charles*, b. Dec. 23, 1827.
11 X. *Hudson*, b. Feb. 27, 1830.
12 XI. *Elizabeth Ellen*, b. Dec. 23, 1831.

1 FRANCIS HINDS md. May 27, 1826, Lucy Kinsman, b. Sept. 4, 1804, dau. of Daniel and Lucy (Munroe) Kinsman and granddau. of Lieut. Ebenezer Munroe. After a short stay in Fitchburg and in Leominster he removed to this town about 1830. He d. Sept. 29, 1861; she md. (2d) Jonathan P. Wilder, *q. v.*

2 I. *Louisa Ann*, b. April 2, 1827; md. Joseph E. Clark, *q. v.*
3 II. *Lucy Adams*, b. Sept. 9, 1829; md. July 4, 1850, George N. Duncan. He is a millwright.

4 1. Frank, b. May 17, 1852; resides in Worcester.

2. Junia J., b. Dec. 10, 1859; md. Charles Johnson of Gardner.
3. Lillie May, b. Sept. 11, 1873.

III. *Sarah J.*, b. Aug. 2, 1834; md. Warren Pratt of Gardner.

IV. *Adaline P.*, b. April, 1840; md. Harvey Clark, *q. v.*

V. *Ellen R.*, b. Jan. 5, 1848; md. George F. Corey, *q. v.*

VI. *Martha E.*, b. Sept. 18, 1849; md. Henry Russell of Gardner.

HOBART.

The name of Hobart, firmly and honorably engraven in the early annals of Ashburnham, does not appear in the records of the town since 1844. Daniel Hobart, the first martyr from this town in the Revolution, was a descendant from Edmund Hobart who was in Charlestown in 1633. He was a constable in 1635 and soon after removed to Hingham. The name has been written Hubbard, Hubberd, Hebberd and Hobbert, but the line of descent represented in this town was written Hobart through several earlier generations. Edmund Hobart had sons Edmund, Jr., Joshua, Peter and Thomas, who were b. in Hingham, England. Three of these removed with their father to Hingham. Peter Hobart, b. 1604, son of Edmund, Sen., was admitted to the church in Charlestown 1635, and became the first minister of Hingham, and to him lands were granted in 1635. He remained in the ministry in this place until his death 1679. Rev. Gershom Hobart, b. 1645, a son of Rev. Peter Hobart, was ordained at Groton 1679, and ministered to the settlement until 1705. Concerning these early ministers much can readily be learned from sketches and local histories.

Shebuel Hobart, b. 1688, son of Rev. Gershom Hobart, by wife Martha, had eight children b. in Groton; among them was Nehemiah Hobart, b. March 13, 1717, and d. in Pepperell 1784. He md. Rachel Shattuck, b. June 9, 1719, dau. of Samuel and Mary Shattuck of Groton. They had eight children; of these, two became residents of Ashburnham. Rachel (Shattuck) Hobart d. in Ashburnham Dec. 22, 1796.

1 DANIEL HOBART, a son of Nehemiah and Rachel (Shattuck) Hobart, was b. in Groton Feb. 24, 1748–9. He md. Jan. 22, 1772, Kezia Weston, or Wesson as the name was frequently written. She was b. Sept. 13, 1749, and at the time of marriage she was a resident of Wilmington. In 1773 they removed to this town. He settled south of Rice pond. In 1775 he was a corporal in Capt. Gates' company and probably remained in the service during the year. In June, 1776, again he joined the army, enlisting in Capt. Joseph Flint's company of Col. Coleman's regiment. Marching by way of Springfield and Hartford to New York the regiment joined the army under Washington. At the battle of White Plains, Oct. 28, 1776, he was wounded by a musket ball in the thigh

and d. upon the field. All traditions are united in the testimony that he was an active, intelligent man and of irreproachable character. His widow continued a residence in this town, where she d. Jan. 14, 1844. There were two children of Daniel and Kezia Hobart.

2 I. *Nehemiah*, b. May 25, 1773; md. 1795, Lydia Randall, dau. of Stephen Randall, *q. v.* About 1801 he removed to Peru, Vt., where he d. Dec. 8, 1852.

3 II. *Kezia*, b. April 11, 1775; md. Feb. 20, 1793, Dr. John Peabody of Mt. Vernon, N. H.; he d. about 1800; she md. (2d) Sept. 17, 1809, Peter Hunt, *q. v.* There were three children of Dr. John and Kezia (Hobart) Peabody.

4 1. Chandler, b. May 21, 1795.
5 2. Frederick, b. Feb. 12, 1797.
6 3. Hobart, b. June 12, 1799.

7 SHEBUEL HOBART, a brother of Daniel Hobart, was b. in Groton Dec. 15, 1746. He md. Dec. 7, 1774, Susannah Bradford, and settled in this town on the farm, now of John T. Wilson, between 1770 and 1775. He was a farmer and an intelligent, respected citizen. He was a corporal in Capt. Davis' company in 1775, but no additional record of service in the Revolution has been found. He d. Nov. 8, 1813; his widow d. May 29, 1843, aged 84 years.

8 I. *Rachel*, b. Dec. 11, 1775; md. Samuel Broughton, *q. v.*

9 II. *Susannah*, b. July 16, 1778; md. Henry Kibling, *q. v.*

10 THOMAS HOBART, lineage not traced, a relative of Daniel and Shebuel Hobart, md. Amy Wilder, b. Aug. 20, 1771, dau. of Samuel and Mary (Chubbuck) Wilder. They removed from Hingham to this town about 1796. He occupied a farm now owned by Walter R. Adams, and was an industrious, blameless man. His influence was good and his integrity was proverbial. He d. 1840; his wife d. 1837.

1 WILLIAM HOLBROOK, b. 1752, md. 1777, Elizabeth Rich, and removed from Scituate to this town 1782 or 1783. He was a farmer in the southwest part of the town. In 1807 he removed with his family to Westmoreland, N. H., where he d. 1825.

2 i. *Mabel*, b. June 29, 1778; md. April 13, 1797, Leonard Crosby, a brother of Frederick Crosby.
3 ii. *William*, b. Aug. 10, 1780.
4 iii. *Infant*, d. in this town July 23, 1783.
5 iv. *Josiah*, bap. April 4, 1784; d. April 26, 1784.
6 v. *Jesse*, b. July 23, 1786.+
7 vi. *Samuel*, b. Aug. 25, 1788.
8 vii. *Thomas Rich*, bap. May 9, 1790; d. Dec. 4, 1792.
9 viii. *Polly*, b. July 1, 1794.
10 ix. *Joseph Rich*, b. March 6, 1797.
11 x. *Luther*, b. Nov. 10, 1801.

(6) Jesse Holbrook, son of William, md. Sept. 2, 1806, Nancy White, dau. of Elisha White, *q. v.* He was a blacksmith in this town, where he d. Aug. 4, 1867; she d. April 15, 1864.

12 i. *Nancy White*, b. April 30, 1807; md. Joshua Merriam, *q. v.*
13 ii. *Jesse Horatio*, b. Dec. 26, 1808; md. 1839, Polly Ann Wilcox; resided in Granger, N. Y.; he d. 1856. His sons, James E. and Lewis J., d. in the service in the war of the Rebellion.
14 iii. *Mary Eliza*, b. Sept. 2, 1811; d. 1812.
15 iv. *James Alexander*, b. July 14, 1812; d. unmd. 1839.
16 v. *Mary Eliza*, b. Aug. 12, 1814; md. Sept. 13, 1842, James L. Russell; resides in Fitchburg.
17 vi. *Deborah Laura*, b. March 9, 1817; unmd.; a dressmaker; resides in this town.
18 vii. *Sarah Dorinda*, b. July 5, 1819; d. unmd. Feb. 12, 1876.
19 viii. *Lois S.*, b. Nov. 29, 1821; md. Benjamin Cushing, *q. v.*
20 ix. *Edwin White*, b. April 20, 1824; d. Dec. 9, 1839.
21 x. *William Loring*, b. Aug. 2, 1826; unmd.
22 xi. *Ann A.*, b. Sept. 10, 1828; md. 1856, Calvin D. Strong of Fitchburg, and subsequently of Keene; he d. 1879.
23 xii. *Jane* (twin), b. and d. Sept. 10, 1828.

1 Joshua Holden, with wife Huldah, came to this town 1770. He was a soldier in the Revolution, serving three enlistments; his wife died Feb. 26, 1795, aged "between 60 and 70 years." He md. (2d) Oct. 4, 1803, Phebe (Austin) Stiles, dau. of Daniel, Jr., and Phebe (Lovejoy) Austin of Lunenburg, and widow of Hezekiah Stiles of Rindge. After this marriage he resided in Rindge, where he d. Dec. 1, 1817. It is probable that Joshua and

Huldah Holden had other and older children than the three named below.

2 I. *Joshua*, b. ——; md. Feb. 3, 1795, Lydia Parker, and removed to Middlesex, Vt.

3 II. *Reuben*, b. Sept. 13, 1770; md. 1796, Hannah Nichols of Royalston. He d. April 4, 1799.

4 1. Ivers, b. Nov. 27, 1797.

5 III. *John*, b. April 21, 1773; md. June 30, 1794, Anna Perry.

6 JAMES HOLDEN, perhaps a son of Joshua, resided in this town until 1804. The name of his wife was Persis.

7 I. *Sally*, b. May 20, 1796.

8 II. *James*, b. June 15, 1798.

1 URIAH HOLT was in Ashburnham from 1771 to about 1790 and possibly a few years longer. He served three enlistments in the Revolution. Only a few fragments of his history can be gleaned from the records. The nimble tongue of tradition refuses to fill the open page and little has been learned of his early and subsequent record. His wife d. in this town Nov. 28, 1779, aged 49 years; he md. (2d) June 6, 1785, Sarah Goodridge.

2 I. *Jonathan*, bap. June 14, 1772.

3 II. *Oliver*, bap. Oct. 1, 1775; d. Feb. 1, 1779.

4 ABIEL HOLT, son of Abiel Holt of Rindge, was b. 1790; md. 1815, Edah Darling, dau. of Amos and Ede (Stone) Darling of Rindge. They resided in Rindge several years; subsequently he was a messenger at the State House, Boston, several years, and removed to this town about 1848, where he d. June 10, 1864; his widow d. Oct. 30, 1864.

5 I. *Samuel D.*, b. Sept. 15, 1816; md. Jan. 12, 1860, Susan R. Harris, dau. of Joseph Harris, *q. v.*

6 II. *Edah Stone*, b. Feb. 1, 1819; d. Jan. 17, 1820.

7 III. *Abiel Putnam* (twin), b. Feb. 1, 1819; d. March 31, 1819.

8 IV. *Abiel Putnam*, b. Feb. 23, 1823; d. July 21, 1827.

9 LIBERTY HOLT, a brother of Abiel, was b. in Rindge April 9, 1813. He has been a manufacturer of chairs and is now a farmer in this town. He md. Nov., 1838, Lucy Wheeler, who d. July 13, 1863; he md. (2d) Oct. 30, 1864, Sarah Haynes.

10 I. *Charles H.*, b. Aug. 29, 1843; md. Mary M. Beal of Boston; she d. Feb. 15, 1883; he resides in Ashburnham.

1 JAMES HAYNES resided in this town from 1780 to 1814. His wife Mary d. Aug. 8, 1800; he md. (2d) 1801, Phebe Phelps of Fitchburg. The tax-lists and the record of birth of seven children furnish all the information for this register.

2 I. *Achsah*, b. June 29, 1781.
3 II. *Polly*, b. April 8, 1783.
4 III. *Susannah*, b. Jan. 9, 1787.
5 IV. *Lucy*, b. Jan. 15, 1791.
6 V. *Sally*, b. Dec. 28, 1794.
7 VI. *Nabby*, b. May 24, 1797.
8 VII. *James Lee*, b. Feb. 14, 1803.

9 REUBEN HAYNES, said to be from Leominster, with wife Charlotte, was here a few years about 1840.

10 I. *Reuben Wesley*, b. March 14, 1840.

1 GRANT HOUSTON, son of Ovid Houston, was in Tyngsboro' Nov. 18, 1772. He md. June 6, 1796, Patty Fletcher, b. 1778, dau. of Joshua and Elizabeth (Raymond) Fletcher of Westfield. He removed to this town about 1806, where he d. Nov. 8, 1852; she d. Feb. 8, 1849.

2 I. *Sarah*, b. March 12, 1798; md. April 20, 1837, Noah Mansfield, son of Levi Mansfield of Rindge. He has resided many years at Lane Village. She d. Nov. 27, 1858.

3 1. Sarah Jane, b. March 25, 1838; d. unmd. Sept. 11, 1861.
4 2. Horace Ovid, b. July 27, 1839; md. Jan. 1, 1865, Persis F. Dearth, b. May 22, 1841, dau. of Asa Dearth of Bath, N. H.

5 II. *Horace Walpole*, b. June 23, 1808.+

(5) HORACE W. HOUSTON was a farmer and for several years he owned a saw-mill in the seventh school district. He md. Dec. 9, 1829, Catherine Tuckerman who d., leaving two children, Feb. 14, 1860; md. (2d) Jan. 8, 1861, Elizabeth P. Collins; md. (3d) Aug. 9, 1874, Maria J. Foss. He d. Jan. 22, 1886.

6 i. *Julia E.*, b. June 22, 1832; md. June 8, 1870, James F. West; resides in Haverhill. Mrs. West began to sing in childhood and with each succeeding year her voice improved with culture and in volume. For many years she was among the best known and favorite soprano singers of New England.

7 ii. *Julius A.*, b. Nov. 29, 1834; md. July 26, 1861, Althea L. Temple of Keene, N. H. He resides in South Acton.

1 Thomas Howard was b. in Hingham Sept. 30, 1779. He was a son of Thomas and Sarah (Mansfield) Howard and a brother of Edward Howard whose son Edward is the founder of the Howard Watch Company. Thomas Howard md. Jan. 7, 1807, Hannah Wilder of Hingham, b. May 22, 1782. They removed to this town 1810. He was a farmer and a good citizen. He d. Nov. 3, 1861; she d. Nov. 14, 1870.

2 i. *Hannah*, b. March 26, 1808; d. Dec. 16, 1828.
3 ii. *Thomas*, b. Oct. 28, 1809.+
4 iii. *Samuel W.*, b. Aug. 23, 1813.+
5 iv. *Lewis*, b. Dec. 1, 1816; resides in Ottawa, Ill. He md. Jan. 5, 1859, Jane A. Jackson.
6 v. *George, H.*, b. Sept. 11, 1818.+
7 vi. *Mary W.*, b. Dec. 7, 1820; unmd.; resides in this town.
8 vii. *Lucy M.*, b. Feb. 19, 1828; d. June 14, 1846.

(3) Thomas Howard md. Dec. 3, 1835, Hannah Elizabeth Wright and removed to East Cambridge. He d. Nov. 17, 1850.

9 i. *Frank Edson*, b. March 12, 1837; d. unmd.
10 ii. *George Henry*, b. Nov. 30, 1838; md. April 25, 1861, Charlotte Wickens. He is a bookkeeper in East Cambridge.
11 iii. *Thomas Melville*, b. Nov. 26, 1844; md. Mary Mattell; resides in East Cambridge.

(4) Samuel W. Howard md. Dec. 15, 1842, Susan Hobart, b. Oct. 31, 1821; she d. Sept. 22, 1868. He resides in this town. He is a carpenter and stone mason.

12 i. *Charles Hobart*, b. July 15, 1845; md. Sept. 20, 1882, Mina A. Gaines, b. Sept. 4, 1856, of

Miller's Falls, dau. of Benjamin and Lydia E. (Kendall) Gaines. Residence in Ashburnham.

(6) GEORGE HOWARD md. March 20, 1862, Catherine (Woods) Fairbanks, dau. of Asa Woods, *q. v.* He is a farmer and lives on the homestead.

13 I. *Herbert George*, b. Oct. 21, 1863.
14 II. *Katie Mabel*, b. Aug. 7, 1874.

1 JOEL HOWE md. Experience Fenno and resided in this town a few years. His wife d. Feb. 21, 1815. He removed to Fitchburg. They had a son Charles and a dau. Eliza of whom no record has been received.

2 ADDISON HOWE, son of Joel and Experience (Fenno) Howe, md. Feb. 18, 1835, Ede Ward, dau. of Caleb Ward, *q. v.* They reside in this town.

3 I. *Eliza M.*, b. Nov. 6, 1835; md. Edwin Gates; resides in Verona, N. Y.
4 II. *Elsie A.*, b. Feb. 24, 1839; md. Nathaniel Kenney; md. (2d) Abel Stephen Farwell, son of Abel Farwell, *q. v.*
5 III. *Leroy A.*, b. May 6, 1841; md. Ella Maria Wood, dau. of James Wood; resides in Westminster.
6 IV. *Amelia E.*, b. July 14, 1843; md. Geo. W. Martin; resides in Peacham, Vt.
7 V. *Harlan B.*, b. Feb. 25, 1847; md. Flora A. Underwood; resides in Westminster.

8 PERLEY HOWE, son of Perley and Jane T. (Belcher) Howe of Gardner and grandson of Ebenezer and Elizabeth (Deland) Howe of Templeton and Gardner, was b. in Gardner Sept. 17, 1811. He md. Nov. 28, 1833, Mary P. Whitney, dau. of Joseph G. Whitney of Westminster. He is a farmer and has resided in this town since 1834. He has been assessor and selectman several years and has acceptably filled other positions of trust. He d. June 2, 1882.

9 I. *Orange E.*, b. Dec. 23, 1835; he is an engineer. He md. May 1, 1858, Maria A. Platts, dau. of John V. Platts, *q. v.*; she d. April 29, 1869; md. (2d) July 12, 1871, Olive C. Shorey of Plymouth, Me.

10 1. Edward Perley, b. Dec. 13, 1859.
11 2. Mary Louisa, b. March 6, 1866; md. Ephraim Stone, *q. v.*
12 3. John Varnum, b. Sept. 4, 1868; d. June 27, 1870.

13 II. *Alvah S.*, b. Aug. 13, 1837; md. 1863, L. Annie Glazier, dau. of John C. Glazier, *q. v.* He d. in Woonsocket, R. I., Sept. 4, 1877.

14 III. *George P.*, b. March 12, 1847; md. Nov. 17, 1872, Eliza J. Kelton, dau. of Charles Kelton; md. (2d) Sept. 27, 1881, Mary (Hamilton) Pierson; reside in Chelsea. He is an engineer in Boston.

15 ELI HOWE, a brother of Perley Howe, was b. in Gardner April 2, 1804; md. Mary Severy. He removed to this town 1832 and to West Boylston 1872, where he d. 1883. Mr. Howe was an esteemed citizen. No children.

1 MELZAR HUDSON, b. in Bridgewater April 22, 1771, was a son of William and Lucy Hudson. He lived a few years in Winchendon and removed to this town about 1795. In 1797 he was Quartermaster of the Fourth Regiment of militia, and in subsequent years he was frequently elected to minor town offices. He was residing in this town in 1805, but his name from that date disappears in the records. In 1811 he was residing in Leominster, where he d. Aug. 14, 1825. He md. Feb. 19, 1798, Catherine Gates, dau. of John Gates, *q. v.* The name is written Melzar and Melzer.

2 I. *Levi*, b. May 16, 1793.
3 II. *Cynthia*, b. Jan. 22, 1795.
4 III. *G——*, b. Oct. 26, 1797.
5 IV. *Charlotte*, b. Jan. 12, 1799.
6 V. *Nelson*, b. Feb. 22, 1801; d. March 23, 1801.
7 VI. *George*, b. April 2, 1803.
8 VII. *Jane Taylor*, b. June 23, 1817.

HUNT.

The families of Hunt who have resided in this town are of one American family and are descendants of William Hunt, the emigrant ancestor of the Concord family. He was b. in England about 1605, and, with wife Elizabeth and two children, he emigrated to America in 1635 and settled in Concord. His wife d. Dec. 27, 1661; he md. (2d) 1664, Mercy Rice. This was her third marriage; her maiden name was Mercy Hurd; her first husband was Thomas Brigham and her second husband was Edmund Rice. William Hunt d. in Marlboro 1667, and his widow d. 1698. The three sons of William and Elizabeth Hunt, Nehemiah, Samuel and Isaac, are represented through their descents in the family registers of Ashburnham.

Samuel Hunt, second son of William Hunt, was b. in England 1633; he md. Elizabeth Redding and settled in Ipswich; his eldest son, Samuel Hunt, Jr., was b. Nov. 17, 1657; md. May 1, 1678, Ruth Todd and removed to Tewksbury and d. Jan. 11, 1742–3. His son, Jeremiah Hunt, b. March 27, 1685, md. Abigail Hazeltine, dau. of David Hazeltine and resided in Billerica. His wife d. March 19, 1721–2; he md. (2d) June 19, 1722, Rebecca Ballard, who d. Sept. 21, 1729, and he md. (3d) Aug. 12, 1731, Mary Stewart. He d. 1737. Sherebiah Hunt, son of Jeremiah and Rebecca (Ballard) Hunt, was b. in Billerica April 1, 1726; settled in Lancaster, where he md. April 2, 1758, Deborah Wilder, b. Nov. 17, 1736, dau. of Joseph and Deborah (Joslin) Wilder. Among their four children were Dea. Sherebiah Hunt of Ashburnham, and Deborah, wife of Elisha White.

The youngest son of William Hunt of Concord, the emigrant ancestor, was Isaac Hunt who was b. in Concord 1647; he md. May 14, 1667, Mary Stone. He lived in Concord, where he d. Dec. 12, 1680; his widow md. Nov. 30, 1681, Eliphalet Fox. Samuel Hunt, son of Isaac, b. in Concord Oct. 26, 1672, md. May 4, 1695, Eleanor Davis, b. Oct. 22, 1672, dau. of Simon Davis. He d. Dec. 15, 1695, and the single tie connecting the generations in this line of descent was Samuel Hunt, Jr., posthumous, b. June 11, 1696. He settled in Littleton, where he md. Nov. 14, 1716, Dorothy Bulkley, dau. of Joseph Bulkley; she d. Nov. 4, 1731, aged 33 years. He d. July 13, 1739, leaving a widow Dinah, who md. (2d) Dr. Benjamin Shattuck. The youngest child of Samuel and Dorothy (Bulkley) Hunt was Peter Hunt of Ashburnham.

Nehemiah Hunt, eldest son of William Hunt, was b. in England 1631; md. June 1, 1663, Mary Toll, b. Oct. 8, 1643, dau. of John and Katherine Toll of Sudbury. He settled in Concord, where he d. March 6, 1717–8. His son, William Hunt, b. 1678, md. Mary Carley and resided in Concord, where he d. May 15, 1755. The youngest of six children was Nehemiah Hunt, b. 1726; md. April 11, 1762, Submit Bateman and resided in Concord, where he d. Nov. 15, 1785; his widow md. Nov. 7, 1787, John Flint of Concord. There were eleven children of Nehemiah and Submit (Bateman) Hunt; the third of these was David Hunt of Ashburnham.

1 DEA. SHEREBIAH HUNT, son of Sherebiah and Dorothy (Wilder) Hunt, was b. in Lancaster July 23, 1758. He md. May 15, 1780, Ruth White of Lancaster, and the same year he settled in this town on the farm, now of Albert T. Bemis. His wife d. Oct. 30, 1794; he md. (2d) April 12, 1796, widow Dorothy (Mirick) Garfield of Princeton. She was the mother of Elisha Garfield who lived from childhood in this town and d. unmd. Dec. 16, 1829. The name of Dea. Hunt is familiar to the records and traditions of Ashburnham. He was a tithingman many years and was frequently elected to office. He was respected and loved by his associates. From 1798 to the date of his death he was a deacon of the Congregational church. He d. March 6, 1826. His widow d. Nov. 7, 1846. One child by the first and three by the second marriage.

2 1. *Deborah*, b. July 21, 1781; md. Dec. 31, 1803, Amos Stearns of Winchendon, son of Bartholomew and Mary (Raymond) Stearns; she d. in

Winchendon, leaving seven children, Feb. 7, 1817; he md. (2d) Sarah (Miller) Maynard, widow of Joseph Maynard, *q. v.*

3 II. *Dorothy*, b. April 18, 1797; d. unmd. Nov. 22, 1882.

4 III. *Ruth*, b. June 3, 1799; resides unmd. in this town.

5 IV. *Charles S.*, b. Jan. 9, 1802; md. Jan. 9, 1828, Mary Ann How Vose, b. Sept. 29, 1810. He was a merchant in Boston, where he d., leaving nine children, Feb. 12, 1861.

6 PETER HUNT, son of Samuel and Dorothy (Bulkley) Hunt, was b. in Littleton July 20, 1729. He md. in Littleton Dec. 10, 1761, Sarah Leighton, b. 1731, and in 1779 they removed with four children from Littleton to Rindge. Subsequently they removed to Ashburnham, where he d. Jan. 13, 1816; his widow d. Nov. 29, 1824, aged 93 years.

Sarah Leighton, the wife of Peter Hunt, was a lineal descendant of Rev. Dr. Leighton of England, the father of Archbishop Leighton. John Leighton, the emigrant ancestor, settled in Ipswich 1650. John Leighton, son of John and grandson of John, who settled in Ipswich, b. 1689, md. Sarah Perkins; md. (2d) Hannah Treadwell. He was a sea captain many years. Three of his sons were lost at sea. In 1748 he removed from Ipswich to Littleton with son Francis and daughters Hannah, Martha and Sarah. Capt. John Leighton, the father, d. 1773. Joanna Leighton, wife of Osgood Eaton, *q. v.*, was a dau. of the son Francis who subsequently resided in Westford.

The four children of Peter and Sarah (Leighton) Hunt were b. in Littleton.

7 I. *Hannah*, b. June 11, 1763; md. Abel Hoar of Sterling; she d. Feb. 15, 1822.

8 II. *Peter*, b. June 8, 1765.+

9 III. *Bulkley*, b. Sept. 21, 1768; md. Oct. 8, 1794, Betsey Chaplin, dau. of Micah and Betsey (Philbrick) Chaplin of Rindge. They removed to Brandon and subsequently to Leicester, Vt. He d. Nov. 28, 1852.

10 IV. *Dorothy*, b. May 7, 1773; resided in West Boylston many years; she d. unmd. May 9, 1866.

(8) PETER HUNT, son of Peter and Sarah (Leighton) Hunt, was b. in Littleton June 8, 1765. He was a farmer living



THE PETER HUNT HOMESTEAD.

upon the farm formerly of Shebuel Hobart, where he d. Sept. 8, 1834. He md. Sept. 17, 1809, Kezia (Hobart) Peabody, dau. of Daniel Hobart, *q. v.* She was an intelligent, superior woman and an affectionate friend and mother. She d. Nov. 30, 1833.

11 I. *Rodney*, b. July 6, 1810.+

12 II. *Sabra*, b. Nov. 22, 1812; d. Sept. 26, 1818.

13 III. *Stillman*, b. Jan. 31, 1815; name changed to Harrison C. Hobart. *Vide* page 501. He md. Feb. 2, 1854, Frances Lowrey of Troy, N. Y., who d. March 22, 1855; he md. (2d) June 8, 1857, Anna C. Mower of Boston.

14 IV. *Tamisen*, b. May 12, 1817; md. Samuel H. Benjamin, son of Daniel Benjamin, *q. v.*

15 V. *Peter Thatcher*, b. Sept. 9, 1819. *Vide* page 504. Since 1871 he has resided in Denver, Col., where he is successfully engaged in stock and commission business. He md. 1869, Phebe Hull. They have four children.

(11) RODNEY HUNT was b. in Ashburnham July 6, 1810. He attended the public schools of his native town and with filial kindness he assisted his parents through the needs of their age and past the years of his minority. He is

remembered by the associates of his youth as a generous companion and a young man of ardent temperament and honorable conduct. For many years he followed the trade of a millwright. A half century ago an iron wheel was comparatively unknown, the motive power being supplied by cumbersome wooden wheels of several well-remembered patterns. These were constructed on the ground where they were to be used and their construction and repair furnished employment for a considerable number of skilled workmen. In this employment Mr. Hunt not only met the demands of the passing hour but made a constant and intelligent study of the demands and possibilities of the future. In the progress of the age iron wheels of tested and approved patterns, manufactured in quantity at central points, have supplanted the clumsy structures of fifty years ago. In this revolution, the field of many achievements, Mr. Hunt has been a prominent actor. He is the founder of the Rodney Hunt Machine Company of Orange and president of the corporation. Few men have manifested an equal knowledge of water power and its proper adjustment to machinery. His life has been devoted to these and kindred studies and pursuits, and the success of the corporation is among the fruits of his study and perseverance. As a citizen he is held in high esteem and has frequently been called to positions of trust. He has represented the town of Orange in the Legislature and has been at all times an earnest and steadfast supporter of the reforms of the age. He md. Jan. 5, 1834, Margaret Parker, dau. of Jeremiah Parker of Holden; she d. Nov. 28, 1865; md. (2d) March 19, 1867, Eliza (Parker) Slate, a sister of his first wife. He has resided in Orange since 1840.

16 DAVID HUNT, son of Nehemiah and Submit (Bateman) Hunt, was b. in Concord June 15, 1766. He came to Ashburnham about 1790. He md. Feb. 21, 1793, Lydia Howe of Templeton. The intentions of marriage are recorded in this town and in the record he is styled "of Ashburnham." At the ensuing annual election of town officers, according to a custom of the times, he received the notice commonly paid to newly married men by being elected hogreave. Not many years later he removed to Mason, N. H., where he d. 1848.

17 I. *Abel*, b. Dec. 24, 1794.

18 II. *Sarah*, b. May 2, 1797; md. Sept. 25, 1827, Josiah Winship of Mason, N. H.

19 III. *Mary*, b. Feb. 24, 1799.



[illegible] states of his youth as a genius [illegible]
[illegible] several years he followed [illegible]
[illegible] with entire success for [illegible]
[illegible] public of Hartford, and [illegible]
[illegible] wheels of several [illegible]
[illegible] were constructed on the [illegible]
[illegible] and their construction [illegible]
[illegible] for a considerable [illegible]
[illegible] employment Mr. Hunt [illegible]
[illegible] passing hour but to [illegible]
[illegible] of the demands and [illegible]
[illegible] the progress of [illegible]
[illegible] over patterns, new [illegible]
[illegible] have supplied [illegible]
[illegible]. In this [illegible] the [illegible]
Mr. Hunt has been a prominent
[illegible] of the Nancy Hunt Machine
[illegible] proof of the corporation.
[illegible] and a good knowledge of water
[illegible] machinery. His life
[illegible] studies and pur-
[illegible] of the generation is among the fruits
[illegible] as a citizen he is held in
[illegible] and has frequently been called to positions of
trust. He has represented the town of Orange in the
[illegible] and has at all times an earnest and
[illegible] the reforms of the age. He m.
Parker, dau. of Jeremiah Parker
[illegible], 1768; md. (2d) March 19
[illegible], a sister of his first wife. He
[illegible]

[illegible] and Submit (Bateman,
[illegible] 15, 1776. He came to
[illegible] m. Feb. 21, 1795, [illegible]
[illegible] the directions of marriage are
[illegible] On the record he is styled "of
[illegible] the unchanging annual election of town
[illegible] of the town, he received
[illegible] to pay to town, [illegible]
[illegible] many years [illegible] he served to
Mason, N[illegible] [illegible]

[illegible], 1794
[illegible] Aug. 2, 1797; rd. Sept. 25, 1824,
[illegible] Ashburnham, N. H.
[illegible] Mc[illegible], 1799



Hunt

20 IV. *David F.*, b. March 4, 1801.
21 V. *Lydia*, b. Feb. 19, 1804.
22 VI. *Sabrina*, b. June 6, 1806; md. 1834, John Fessenden of Westminster.
23 VII. *Sophia H.*, b. June 19, 1809.
24 VIII. *Nehemiah A.*, b. Sept. 27, 1811.

1 REV. ANDREW JAQUITH was a son of Benjamin and Rebecca (Spaulding) Jaquith of Ashby and a grandson of Adford and Sarah Jaquith of Ashby, where he was b. March 7, 1816. *Vide* page 513. He md. April 17, 1842, Abbie G. Warren, b. April 6, 1815, dau. of Jacob and Sarah (Hubbard) Warren. He d. Aug. 27, 1864; his widow resides on the homestead in this town.

2 I. *Henry Warren*, b. Nov. 5, 1844; enlisted in 6th N. H. Vols. in March, 1862, and d. at Washington, D. C., Aug. 13, 1864.
3 II. *Andrew Benjamin*, b. May 16, 1850; md. March 4, 1880, Clara C. Kelley of Wakefield. He resided in New York and in Washington, D. C., where he d. April 12, 1883.

1 CYRUS A. JEFTS, son of Gilbert and Eliza (Eaton) Jefts of Stoddard and Washington, N. H., was b. June 11, 1834. He md. Sept. 21, 1861, Roxanna Blodget of New Ipswich. He is a miller and dealer in lumber at Factory Village.

2 I. *Frederick A.*, b. Oct. 27, 1865.
3 II. *Charles J.*, b. Jan. 6, 1868.
4 III. *Walter E.*, b. Sept. 7, 1874.
5 IV. *Adella May*, b. Jan. 19, 1879.

1 COL. JOSEPH JEWETT, son of Edward and Sarah Jewett, was b. in Stow May 10, 1761. It is a tradition of the family that he was a descendant of the sixth generation from Joseph Jewett of Rowley, a brother of Dea. Maximilian Jewett. Col. Jewett through a long and active life was a controlling spirit in this town. *Vide* page 478. He md. April 11, 1786, Sarah Woods, dau. of Samuel and Tabitha Woods of Princeton, *q. v.* He d. May 3, 1846; she d. Feb. 23, 1852.

2 I. *Ivers*, b. May 7, 1788.+
3 II. *Joseph*, b. April 30, 1790.+
4 III. *Milton*, b. May 31, 1793; d. unmd. Oct. 31, 1817.

5 iv. *Polly Gibbs*, b. March 4, 1796; md. Oct. 27, 1818, Rev. Otis C. Whiton, b. in Winchendon Sept. 27, 1794, son of Dr. Israel and Dorothy (Crosby) Whiton. She d., *s. p.*, Nov. 25, 1824.
6 v. *Merrick Augustus*, b. Aug. 26, 1798.+
7 vi. *Sarah Farmer*, b. Sept. 4, 1803; md. Dec. 14, 1825, Albert Hobart of Boston; she d. Oct. 9, 1838.

(2) Gen. Ivers Jewett resided in Ashburnham, Fitchburg and Mobile, Ala. *Vide* page 479. He md. Dec. 21, 1813, Mary Adams, dau. of Ebenezer Thomas Adams, *q. v.* She d. at Alexandria, La., Oct. 11, 1834; he md. (2d) Lydia Adams, a sister of the first wife. He d. at Mobile April 26, 1871. The following register of the children is incomplete and possibly fails to name all of them.

8 i *Ivers Thomas*, b. Sept. 26, 1814.
9 ii. *Joseph Adams*, b. July 4, 1816.
10 iii. *Edwin Milton*, b. Aug. 10, 1821.
11 iv. *George Perkins*, bap. 1824; d. Jan 28, 1825.
12 v. *Mary Eliza Whiton*, bap. 1826.
13 vi. *Sarah Woods*, bap. 1828.

(3) Joseph Jewett was a merchant several years at Winchendon Centre, and while a resident of the town was a member of the school committee in 1817. Soon after this date he removed to Baltimore, Md., and was engaged there as a bookseller and publisher and a part of the time at least he was associated in business with his brother-in-law, Joseph Cushing. He md. Oct. 8, 1811, Susannah Cushing, dau. of Capt. David Cushing, *q. v.* No record of their children has been received.

(6) Rev. Merrick A. Jewett for many years was the faithful and beloved pastor of the First Congregational church in Terre Haute, Ind. *Vide* page 498. He md. Oct. 4, 1825, Mary Moore, b. Feb. 10, 1807, eldest dau. of Geo. W. and Margaret Moore of Baltimore, Md. He d. April 3, 1874. His widow d. Sept. 5, 1882. There were nine children, seven sons and two daughters, of Rev. Merrick A. and Mary (Moore) Jewett. Of these six d. in infancy.

14 i. *David Moore*, b. 1834; d. June 14, 1876.
15 ii. *Edward Duncan*, resides in Texas.
16 iii. *Mary M.*, resides in New York City.



RESIDENCE OF DR. NATHANIEL JEWETT.

17 AMORY JEWETT, b. in Pepperell Aug. 14, 1808, md. Lucy E. Diewaide and resided several years in Boston, where his children were born. They have resided in this town several years. He is a son of Nathaniel and Betsey (Hamblet) Jewett of Pepperell, Charlestown and Lexington and a grandson of Jedediah Jewett of Pepperell who was a descendant of the Rowley family of Jewett. Two sons of Amory and Lucy E. (Diewaide) Jewett are among the resident physicians of this town.

18 I. *Amory Jewett, M. D.*, b. Jan. 17, 1833. *Vide* page 473.

19 II. *Nathaniel Jewett, M. D.*, b. March 10, 1841. *Vide* page 474.

1 TIMOTHY JOHNSON with wife, Sarah, removed to Ashburnham about 1772. He settled near the farm of the late Dea. John C. Davis. It is probable that the family removed from this town about 1795. He was in the service in Col. Putnam's regiment three years, and in 1778 the town voted to relieve the necessities of the family.

2 I. *Sarah*, b. Sept. 16, 1774.

3 II. *Timothy*, b. Nov. 29, 1775.

4 III. *Oliver*, b. Dec. 31, 1777.

5 IV. *Joshua*, b. March 13, 1781.
6 V. *Levi*, b. Dec. 1, 1783.
7 VI. *John*, b. April 19, 1786.
8 VII. *Benjamin*, b. Oct. 18, 1788.
9 VIII. *Joseph*, b. June 25, 1791.

10 MOSES JOHNSON was taxed 1770, but his name is not renewed in the records.

11 SAMUEL JOHNSON and wife, Lydia, were here a short time during the Revolution.

12 I. *Abel*, b. Oct. 12, 1777.

13 CHARLES FRANCIS JOHNSON, b. in Westmoreland, N. H., Aug. 13, 1821, son of Walker and Philena (Puffer) Johnson, md. June 24, 1843, Ruth D. Bemis, b. Oct. 18, 1822, dau. of William Bemis, *q. v.* He is a mechanic in Ashburnham.

14 I. *Charles Herbert*, b. June 11, 1847; d. June 16, 1863.
15 II. *Ida Frances*, b. Aug. 24, 1851; md. 1875, George W. Hurd; resides in Fitchburg.
16 III. *Arthur Clesson*, b. June 27, 1854; d. Dec., 1854.
17 IV. *Helen M.*, b. Dec. 14, 1859; d. June 5, 1863.

JONES.

ENOS JONES, an early resident of Ashburnham, was a representative of the fifth generation of his family in this country. The emigrant ancestor was Lewis Jones, who was residing in Roxbury in 1645, and removed to Watertown about 1650, where he d. April 11, 1684. In his will there is mention of his wife, Anna, and several children; of these Capt. Josiah Jones, b. 1643, resided in Watertown and Weston. He was a deacon of the church in Weston, and a selectman of Watertown several years previous to the incorporation of Weston. He md. Oct. 2, 1667, Lydia Treadway, dau. of Nathaniel and Sufferana (How) Treadway of Watertown. He. d. Oct. 9, 1714; she d. Sept. 18, 1743. Josiah Jones, b. Oct. 20, 1670, son of Capt. Josiah Jones, resided in Weston. In 1715 he was chosen a deacon to succeed his father, but he refused the office. He md. Abigail Barnes, b. June 14, 1671, dau. of Thomas and Abigail (Goodnow) Barnes of Marlboro'. He d. Dec. 31, 1734; his widow d. in Stockbridge Nov. 4, 1749. Their son, William Jones, b. Jan. 4, 1706–7, settled in Lunenburg. During the Indian War his house was one of the garrisons in the line of fortification. *Vide* page 75. He was a surveyor and frequently employed by the colony. In 1760 he was sent to Nova Scotia to survey a township. On his return voyage the vessel was lost and he perished at sea, Jan. 26, 1761. He md. Dec. 25, 1733, Sarah Locke, b. July 5, 1707, dau. of James and Sarah (Cutter) Locke of Woburn. She d. Oct. 20, 1788. Of their children, Enos Jones settled in Ashburnham, and Sarah md. Joseph Foster, and their dau., Rebecca Foster, was the wife of Isaac Whitmore of this town.

1 ENOS JONES, son of William and Sarah (Locke) Jones, was b. in Lunenburg July 4, 1742. His father, at the time of his decease, was the owner of one-half or the whole of the Bluefield or Bellows grant in this town. In 1761 Enos Jones removed to this town and settled on this tract of land, of which he subsequently acquired possession. *Vide* pp. 36–39. He was industrious and honest; in his home he was hospitable, and among his fellow-men he commanded their esteem. When he removed to this town some progress had been made in the settlement, a church had been organized and a minister had been settled, yet the greater portion of the township was unoccupied, and his early home was in a wilderness. In the male lines of descent, no representative of his family, bearing his name, has resided in this town since the removal of his grandson Dea. Gilman Jones, yet in the collateral branches and bearing other names his descendants in this town are very numerous. He md. Jan. 20, 1768, Mary Whitmore, dau. of Joseph Whitmore, *q. v.*; she d. Dec. 24, 1788; he md. (2d) Hannah (Adams) Russell, dau. of Capt. Thomas Adams, *q. v.*, and widow of Walter Russell. He d. Dec. 30, 1824; his widow d. Oct. 16, 1836.

2 I. *Edmund*, b. Sept. 13, 1769.+

3 II. *Molly*, b. March 31, 1771; md. Silas Willard, Esq., *q. v.*

4 III. *Nathan*, b. April 12, 1773; md. Dec. 15, 1796, Betsey Spaulding, dau. of Isaac Spaulding, *q. v.* He resided in Lempster, N. H., and in Sharon, Vt. They had ten children; one d. in childhood and nine removed to Ohio and other Western States; he d. at Cold Spring, Shelby Co., Ill., May 14, 1852.

5 IV. *Sally*, b. May 21, 1775; md. Dec. 5, 1798, Dea. John Taylor, b. Feb. 26, 1773, son of Thaddeus and Bridget (Walton) Taylor of Dunstable and New Ipswich. They resided in Lempster, N. H., where she d., leaving nine children, Dec. 13, 1831. He d. 1864.

6 V. *Dolly*, b. May 28, 1777; md. Jonathan Wood, *q. v.*

7 VI. *Lucy*, b. May 20, 1779; md. Joshua Fletcher, *q. v.*

8 VII. *Persis*, b. Nov. 20, 1781; md. Oct. 24, 1805, Samuel Taylor, b. Oct. 12, 1781, a son of Thaddeus and Bridget (Walton) Taylor. He was a farmer in New Ipswich, near the Ashburnham line. He d. Jan. 4, 1864; she d. Sept. 1, 1869; nine children, among them Charles Taylor, who md. 1841, Harriet N. Weston, dau. of James Weston, *q. v.*

9 VIII. *Eunice*, b. Jan. 5, 1784; md. John Eaton, *q. v.*
10 IX. *Daniel*, b. Dec. 23, 1788.+

(2) EDMUND JONES md. Sept. 19, 1799, Caty Taylor, b. Feb. 16, 1775, a sister of Dea. John and Samuel Taylor who md. sisters of Edmund Jones. He was a farmer, residing on a part of the Bellows grant and west of the residence of his father. His wife d. Jan. 6, 1831; he md. (2d) 1832, Betsey Eaton. He d. Jan. 17, 1853.

11 I. *Gilman*, b. Dec. 4, 1800.+
12 II. *Tila*, b. June 1, 1803; md. 1835, Eliphaz Allen, b. March 29, 1797, son of Eliphaz and Eunice (Putnam) Allen of Rindge, his third marriage. They resided in Rindge and in Jaffrey, N. H., where he d. July 10, 1848; his widow d. March 11, 1858. She was the mother of four children.
13 III. *Caroline*, b. Oct. 30, 1808; md. Nov. 23, 1847, Ezra Hudson; she was his fourth wife; a former wife of Mr. Hudson was Sarah Brooks, dau. of Thaddeus Brooks. He resided in Templeton.
14 IV. *Christopher*, b. March 31, 1812; md. April 7, 1839, Mary Ward, dau. of Caleb Ward, *q. v.* He d. April 9, 1843; she md. (2d) Jan. 4, 1853, Addison Bancroft of Rindge. Of Christopher and Mary (Ward) Jones there were three children.

15 1. Catherine Taylor, b. Jan. 26, 1840; md. Cleros S. Converse, b. March 13, 1846, son of Lucius M. and Cynthia (Sawtell) Converse of Rindge. They reside in Horicon, Wis.
16 2. Homer Swain, b. Dec. 29, 1841; after the death of his father, he was adopted by his uncle, Dea. Gilman Jones; resides at Horicon, Wis.
17 3. Mary Mersylvia, b. Dec. 4, 1843; md. March 21, 1865, Martin L. Manzer; reside in Winchendon.

18 V. *Cynthia*, b. Oct. 16, 1820; d. unmd. Jan 6, 1849.

(10) DEA. DANIEL JONES was a farmer and resided upon the homestead. He was an affable, upright man, blending kindness with firmness; he commanded the love and respect of his associates. He was a deacon of the

Congregational church from 1824 until 1843 when he united with the Union church at the North Village. He md. July 9, 1811, Rachel Converse, b. Oct. 12, 1788, dau. of Zebulon and Sarah (Merriam) Converse of Rindge. He d. March 14, 1843; his widow subsequently resided several years in Winchendon and d. in Ayer April, 1873.

19 I. *Mary*, b. March 26, 1813; d. unmd. Aug. 30, 1846.

20 II. *Sultyna*, b. April 26, 1815; md. June 2, 1840, Asa E. Woods, son of Sewell and Anna (Whitaker) Woods; they resided in Mason, N. H., where he d. July 25, 1850; she md. (2d) Ezra H. Sawtell, son of Asa Sawtell, *q. v.*

21 III. *Eliza*, b. Oct. 4, 1821; d. Feb. 22, 1824.

22 IV. *Eliza Rachel*, b. Aug. 1, 1826; md. Jan. 3, 1854, Horace O. Whitcher, son of Jeremiah and Persis (Craige) Whitcher; reside in Barton, Vt.

23 V. *Daniel Wayland*, b. Jan. 14, 1829. He is a successful physician in Newton. These lines arranged for a place in Chap. XX, were inadvertently omitted in that connection. Dr. Jones was a student in the office of Dr. Ira Russell of Winchendon and is a graduate of the Medical Department of the University of New York, receiving his degree in March, 1852. The same year he located in Rindge where he was well received and the recipient of a liberal measure of practice. In 1855 he removed to Newton, where he continued in active practice several years. He is now in Boston. He md. July 13, 1853, Minerva A. Tyler, dau. of Ephraim and Mary (Bissell) Tyler; she d. Jan. 31, 1858; md. (2d) Dec. 24, 1860, Josephine D. Bullard, dau. of Elias and Persis (Daniels) Bullard of Holliston; she d. May 25, 1871.

(11) Dea. Gilman Jones resided in Ashburnham until 1857, when he removed to Wisconsin. In early life he was a farmer and subsequently in connection with Col. Enoch Whitmore he was engaged in the manufacture of spools and other woodware. He was an original member of the church in North Ashburnham and was a deacon several years. Mr. Jones was an early abolitionist and a stalwart advocate of temperance. In all affairs of a social and public character he answered his convictions which were the full expression of an upright character and a sympathetic nature. He md. Feb. 8, 1827, Sylvia Ward, dau. of Dea. Samuel Ward, *q. v.* He resides at Horicon, Wis. No children.

JONES.

NATHAN JONES, No. 24 in the following register, and his descendants are not related to the Enos Jones family. The emigrant ancestor of this family was John Jones, who is found a resident of Cambridge 1648, and subsequently of Concord. He d. June 22, 1673, and his widow, Dorcas, md. (2d) William Buss of Concord. John Jones, son of John and Dorcas Jones, b. July 6, 1656, md. March 5, 1681, Sarah Farwell and not Sarah Temple, as given by Shattuck, dau. of John and Sarah (Wheeler) Farwell. He d. in Concord Feb. 14, 1725-6. John Jones, son of John and Sarah (Farwell) Jones, b. in Concord Jan. 6, 1690, md. July 25, 1716, Anna Brooks, b. Feb. 21, 1695-6, dau. of Daniel and Ann (Merriam) Brooks. He d. March 12, 1762; she d. June 9, 1753. Among the children of John and Anna (Brooks) Jones was Ebenezer Jones, b. in Concord Dec. 8, 1726; he md. Jan. 22, 1750, Mary Wheeler. They were the parents of fifteen children. About the date of marriage he removed to Bedford, and in 1762 or 1763 he removed to Princeton. He was styled Major, and was prominent in public affairs. An elevation of land in Princeton, called Jones' Hill, indicates the location of his farm. He d. in Princeton 1779; his wife survived him about five years.

24 NATHAN JONES, son of Major Ebenezer Jones of Bedford and Princeton, was b. in Bedford April 21, 1753. He md. Oct. 4, 1774, Mercy Parmenter of Rutland, b. July 27, 1753. They resided in Princeton, where eight of their ten children were born, until 1794, when they removed to Ashburnham and settled in the north part of the town. He was an industrious man, of retiring manner. The forces of his nature were fully employed in the support of a large family. He d. April 8, 1827; his widow d. Dec. 27, 1835.

25 I. *Nathan*, b. April 13, 1775; resided in Vermont and subsequently in Michigan; had a family.

26 II. *Mary*, b. Oct. 17, 1777; md. Capt. —— Corse; resided at Moretown, Vt.

27 III. *Benjamin*, b. Dec. 11, 1779.

28 IV. *Lucy*, b. June 2, 1782; d. July 11, 1782.

29 V. *John*, b. Nov. 24, 1783.+

30 VI. *Anna*, b. Jan. 21, 1787; md. Elias Lane, son of Col. Francis Lane, *q. v.*

31 VII. *Ebenezer*, b. July 26, 1789; md. 1822, Lucinda Reed, dau. of Supply Reed of Acworth, and a sister of the wife of Nahum Benjamin. He resided on the homestead where he d. Sept. 1, 1825; his widow went to Council Bluffs where her brother, John Reed, was a Mormon preacher.

32 1. Eliza, b. and d. Sept. 15, 1823.

33 2. Sylvia.

34 3. Charles.

35 VIII. *Abel Parmenter*, b. March 13, 1792; removed to

Westford, where he md. Mary Corey, b. Feb. 22, 1795, dau. of Abel Corey. He met with financial losses and returned to this town where he d. Jan. 13, 1836. His widow d. Oct. 22, 1862.

36 1. Harriet A., b. Aug. 30, 1817.
37 2. Eliza C., b. Feb. 11, 1819.
38 3. Mary J., b. Jan. 3, 1821.
39 4. Lucy L., b. Sept. 18, 1822; d. May 11, 1840.
40 5. Sarah B., b. Sept. 19, 1824; d. Sept. 22, 1830.
41 6. William A., b. Sept. 23, 1827; d. Oct. 4, 1847.
42 7. George P., b. Jan. 7, 1830.

43 IX. *Betsey*, b. July 24, 1795; md. Oct. 16, 1827, Aaron E. Hadley, and resided several years in this town and subsequently in Burlington and Montpelier, Vt.

44 1. Edwin W., b. 1829.
45 2. Isaac C.
46 3. Mary A.
47 4. Rebecca J.
48 5. Henry H., b. Jan. 4, 1840; md. June 9, 1872, Martha E. (Winkley) Delano; resides at North Ashburnham. He was in Kansas in 1856, and in the affray at Lawrence. He served in the Civil War.

49 X. *Wilder*, b. July 2, 1798; resided in Boston; had a family, but no record is at hand.

(29) Capt. John Jones md. Dec. 17, 1809, Lucy Lane, dau. of Col. Francis Lane, *q. v.*, and removed to Dublin, N. H., where he d. May 3, 1849. He was a lieutenant in the war of 1812 and subsequently a captain of the militia. He was frequently called to positions of trust and in his daily life he commanded the respect of his associates. His widow d. March 24, 1873.

50 I. *Frederick*, b. July 20, 1813. He is a graduate of Harvard University, 1835; a regular graduate in medicine and has received degrees A. M., M. D., from Dartmouth College. Dr. Jones practised his profession a short time in this town previous to a removal to New Ipswich,

where he has been successfully engaged in professional labor. For many years he has occupied a prominent position in the profession, and is frequently employed in the surrounding towns. He md. Feb. 20, 1845, Caroline Frances Gibson, b. in New Ipswich Feb. 2, 1824, dau. of Dr. Stillman Gibson of New Ipswich. They have one son and one daughter.

51 1. Frederic William, b. Jan. 9, 1848; a graduate of Dartmouth College 1869, and Medical Department of the University of New York; engaged in the practice of his profession in New Ipswich; md. May 31, 1881, Harriet A. Perry.

52 2. C. Frances, b. June 1, 1852; she has produced abundant fruits of taste and ability in painting and drawing.

53 II. *Lucy A.*, b. Nov. 20, 1819; was a successful teacher; md. May 14, 1848, Eri J. Spaulding of Troy, N. H.; she d. Feb. 14, 1861.

54 1. Lucy Ann, b. March 19, 1849; d. June 12, 1862.

55 2. Ellen C., b. Aug. 16, 1851; md. May 1, 1877, William L. Morse, a graduate of Harvard University 1877. He is of the firm of Morse & Bigelow, Marlboro'.

56 3. Albert E., b. May 9, 1853; principal of High School, Princeville, Ill.; d. Oct. 4, 1875.

57 4. Abbie C., b. Aug. 21, 1857; md. Aug. 24, 1878, Dudley Philbrick; reside in Brighton.

JOSLIN.

The families of Joslin in this town at an early date were from Leominster. Only one of them remained in Ashburnham beyond a few years. They were of the fifth generation from Thomas Joslin who signed the Lancaster Covenant Sept. 12, 1654. This Thomas with wife Rebecca and five children settled in Hingham in 1635, and subsequently removed to Lancaster, which at that time included Leominster, where the families of Joslin have been numerous, and some of them were among the original owners of land in this town. Among the children of John and Lucy Joslin were three who became residents of this town: Abijah, b. Jan. 24, 1744–5; James, b. July 31, 1747, and Samuel, b. March 11, 1752.

1 Capt. Abijah Joslin, then a young, unmarried man, removed to this town soon after the date of incorporation. He md. Jan. 5, 1768, Keziah Farrar of Townsend, and

settled in the south or southeast part of the town. In 1774 he was a member of the committee of correspondence, and was chosen by the town captain of the militia. At the annual meetings he was at different times elected to office and appears to have been the recipient of a reasonable measure of the confidence and respect of his townsmen. In 1804 the family removed to Verona, N. Y., where some of the older children had previously settled.

2 I. *Abijah*, b. Jan. 3, 1770; md. Anna Smith.
3 II. *Keziah*, b. June 8, 1771; md. Joseph Blackman.
4 III. *Sarah*, b. Dec. 29, 1772; md. Nov. 3, 1795, Peter Andrew Wilder.
5 IV. *Ephraim*, b. Aug. 28, 1774; md. Mehitabel Cagwin.
6 V. *George Washington*, b. April 18, 1776; md. 1803, Rhoda Corey, dau. of Hezekiah Corey, *q. v.*; removed to Verona, N. Y. He d. Aug. 16, 1828, aged 52.
7 VI. *Lucy*, b. Aug. 20, 1778; d. Nov. 20, 1780.
8 VII. *Isaac Farrar*, b. Feb. 25, 1780; d. March 28, 1799.
9 VIII. *John*, bap. March 30, 1782.
10 IX. *Eunice*, bap. Aug. 30, 1783; md. 1807, Thomas Cagwin.
11 X. *Nahum*, bap. April 13, 1790; md. Sarah Jones.
12 XI. *Nancy*, bap. March 18, 1792; d. March 6, 1795.
13 XII. *Sophia*, bap. Oct. 18, 1795; md. Elijah Blackman.

14 Samuel Joslin, a brother of Capt. Abijah Joslin, came to Ashburnham previous to 1770. He is on the roll of Capt. Gates' company 1775. He resided in this town a few years and about 1790 settled in Jaffrey, N. H. It is probable that he lived in some other place between his residence in this town and his removal to Jaffrey. He d. in Jaffrey, Nov. 17, 1815; he md. in this town July 18, 1776, Elizabeth Wilder, dau. of Joseph Wilder of Leominster; she d. Dec. 14, 1821. Three children.

15 I. *Lucy*, b. ——; md. Millot Ellis; removed to Oberlin, Ohio.
16 II. *Thomas*, removed to Oberlin.
17 III. *Betsey*, removed to Oberlin.

18 James Joslin, brother of Capt. Abijah and Samuel, md. in Leominster Jan. 8, 1767, Mary Daby, and removed to this town soon after. They united with the church Oct.

14, 1770. It is certain that they resided in Leominster, after a few years in this town, but there is no record of any transfer of their church relations. The only existing tax list of that period is for the year 1771 which bears his name. Two children were b. in Ashburnham and others in Leominster.

19 I. *James*, bap. Oct. 11, 1770; md. 1792, Relief Carter.

20 II. *Molly* (twin), bap. Oct. 11, 1770; md. William Burrage.

1 WILLIAM JOYNER came from Sudbury and remained an active and influential citizen of this town from 1763 to 1769. At the first town meeting in Ashburnham he was chosen assessor, and the three succeeding years he was the town clerk. He md. in Sudbury March 18, 1745, Hannah Bowker. The records of this town afford no additional information.

1 CAPT. SAMUEL KELTON, son of Edward and Mary Kelton, was b. in Dorchester Nov. 26, 1741. After his marriage he settled in Needham, and as early as 1775 he began to improve land in this town which formerly had been owned by his father. At the Lexington alarm he was a sergeant in Capt. Aaron Smith's company, and during the remainder of the year he was a captain in Col. Patterson's regiment, participating in the siege of Boston. In the following year, 1776, he removed to this town, and in 1785 his homestead was included in the new town of Gardner. He was a man of intelligence and character, and was prominent in town affairs. While he remained a resident of this town his name is often met in the records, and subsequently in Gardner, he was an influential and honored citizen. He md. Jan. 5, 1769, Molly Leeds, b. Oct. 2, 1749. She d. in Gardner Feb. 5, 1824; he d. March 29, 1821.

2 I. *Samuel*, b. March 1, 1770; d. Sept. 16, 1775.

3 II. *Lemuel*, b. Sept. 22, 1771; md. March 6, 1796, Patty Angier, dau. of Timothy Angier, *q. v.* They resided in this town and in Gardner, where she d. 1842. He d. Oct 2, 1863. Three children.

4 III. *Edward*, b. June 13, 1773; d. Sept. 25, 1775.

5 IV. *Ebenezer*, b. March 12, 1775; d. Sept. 12, 1775.

6 V. *Esther*, b. Oct. 20, 1776; d. unmd. in Gardner July 6, 1843.

7 VI. *Samuel*, b. Oct. 25, 1778; d. Nov. 30, 1780.

8 VII. *Enos*, b. Feb. 3, 1781; md. July 11, 1814, Dolly Winchester, dau. of Jonathan Winchester, *q. v.* They resided in Gardner. He d. May 20, 1858, She d. Feb. 2, 1864.

9 1. Louisa, b. July 18, 1815; md. Augustus E. Houghton; he d. in Milford, N. H. She resides in this town.

10 2. George, b. April 19, 1817; md. Sept. 1, 1842, Sopia Adams, b. Oct. 16, 1818, dau. of Daniel and Dinah (Metcalf) Adams of Gardner. He d. April 1, 1877; she d. Dec. 15, 1879.

11 3. Selina, b. Sept. 25, 1820; md. May 9, 1850, Nathan W. Cram.

12 4. Charles, b. Dec. 21, 1821.+

13 5. Lucinda, b. Oct. 6, 1825.

14 VIII. *William*, b. Aug. 24, 1883; d. in Gardner unmd. Jan. 20, 1853.

15 IX. *Eliam*, b. Oct. 25, 1785; md. May 29, 1826, Sophia Hosley, b. in Hancock, N. H., Jan. 26, 1801. They resided in this town from 1828 to 1832, and subsequently in Gardner, where he d. Aug. 24, 1865; she d. April 22, 1879.

16 1. David, b. June 25, 1827, has resided many years in Gardner, and is now a resident of this town.

17 2. Nancy, b. Jan. 22, 1831; md. Jan. 10, 1854, Leander Knowlton; she d. in Worcester June 21, 1883.

18 X. *Mary*, b. Oct. 18, 1791; md. Stillman Holden, and resided many years in Gardner; she d. Sept. 15, 1865; he resides in Erving.

(12) CHARLES KELTON md. Oct. 4, 1842, Susan Reed. He is a farmer, living on the Emory Fairbanks farm. Six children.

19 I. *Laura*, b. July 16, 1843; md. George W. Reed, b. March 2, 1837, son of Jacob Reed of Westford; reside in this town.

20 1. Hattie M., b. March 1, 1858; md. July 12, 1878, Alfred H. Cushing, son of Benjamin Cushing, *q. v.*

2. Eva R., b. Sept. 27, 1868; md. Feb. 18, 1886, William F. Walther.
3. Alvin, b. Oct. 10, 1878.
4. Lottie, b. Oct. 7, 1880.

II. *Charles Otis*, b. Aug. 26, 1845; md. 1867, Emma A. Reed.
III. *Amasa W.*, b. June 18, 1848.
IV. *Eliza J.*, b. Oct. 2, 1851; md. Nov. 17, 1872, George P. Howe, son of Perley Howe, *q. v.*
V. *Luella*, b. June 12, 1855; md. Wilbur W. Page.
VI. *George H.*, b. Oct. 16, 1858.

BENJAMIN KEMP, wife Judith and three children removed to this town from Chelmsford in June, 1770. The family disappear after a few years. The Chelmsford records announce the birth of four children. It is probable that John d. previous to 1770, as he is not named in the warrant of caution against a settlement.

I. *Judith*, b. in Chelmsford Feb. 10, 1762.
II. *Benjamin*, b. in Chelmsford Feb. 22, 1764.
III. *John*, b. in Chelmsford May 19, 1766.
IV. *Martha*, b. in Chelmsford Aug. 27, 1768.
V. *James*, b. in Ashburnham Feb. 3, 1771.
VI. *Kezia*, b. in Ashburnham Aug. 8, 1773.

AMOS KENDALL removed to this town between 1770 and 1775, and settled in the north part of the town. He disappears from the records within a few years. There were other Kendalls in this town and all of them possibly were sons of Amos. All the information that is gleaned from the records is here presented. A dau., Eunice, was bap. May 7, 1775.

AMOS KENDALL, JR., md. May 28, 1777, Molly Willard, and disappears from the records.

FRANCIS KENDALL d. in Sept., 1777, as recorded by Mr. Cushing, "on his way home from ye army."

WILLIAM KENDALL md. probably before the family removed to this town. The name of his wife was Polly. He removed from town about 1806.

I. *William*, b. May 24, 1775.
II. *Mary*, b. July 22, 1777.

7 III. *Nancy*, b. Nov. 27, 1781.
8 IV. *Moses*, b. Sept. 7, 1784.
9 V. *Lydia*, b. Sept. 16, 1789.
10 VI. *Philip*, b. Aug. 24, 1799.

11 CALEB KENDALL md. in Shrewsbury Dec. 8, 1773, Priscilla Townsend, dau. of Joshua Townsend, *q. v.* He resided in Shrewsbury several years, and removed to this town previous to 1787. He md. (2d) April 15, 1788, Lucy Kendall of Lancaster, and in 1792 he removed to Winchendon.

12 I. *Priscilla*, b. Jan. 20, 1777.
13 II. *Caleb*, b. Jan. 25, 1779.
14 III. *Lucy*, bap. June 14, 1789.
15 IV. *David*, bap. May 29, 1791.
16 V. *Samuel*, b. Oct. 11, 1792.

17 ALVIN KENDALL, son of Martin and Prudence Kendall and a grandson of Benjamin and Kezia (Twichell) Kendall of Sherburne and Gardner, was b. Dec. 13, 1805. He md. Nov. 29, 1832, Hannah Bemis, dau. of William Bemis, *q. v.* He was formerly engaged in the manufacture of chairs in the Central Village. He d. in this town Feb. 8, 1849; his widow d. in Milford, N. H., June 11, 1886.

18 I. *Mary M.*, b. Jan. 17, 1834; md. Nov. 27, 1852, George E. Sawtell, son of Caleb Sawtell, *q. v.*; they reside in Milford, N. H.
19 II. *Hannah Elizabeth*, b. Sept. 9, 1836; md. 1854, Frederick P. Brown of Winchendon; she d. Feb. 12, 1859.
20 III. *Lorette*, b. Jan. 3, 1840; unmd.; resides in Milford, N. H.
21 IV. *Martin*, b. Oct. 3, 1841; d. Nov. 18, 1846.
22 V. *Wealthy*, b. Sept. 25, 1844; md. May 23, 1861, Albert T. Willard, son of Alonzo L. Willard, *q. v.*; reside in Bethel, Vt.
23 VI. *Abbie Maria*, b. Dec. 20, 1846; md. Nov. 9, 1876, Jacob Kendall; resided in Temple, N. H., where she d. June 17, 1883.

1 SAMUEL KEYES, b. Dec. 18, 1784, son of Ephraim and Bridget (Sawyer) Keyes of Plymouth, N. H., and a grandson of Ephraim Keyes, was the first of the name in this town. He md. Dec. 5, 1811, Abigail Benjamin, dau. of Daniel Benjamin, *q. v.* They removed to Weston and

later to Plymouth, N. H., but returned to Ashburnham 1820. He was a farmer and lived on a farm in the north part of the town, frequently called the Benjamin farm. He d. March 16, 1868; she d. Feb 16, 1869.

2 I. *Almira*, b. March 13, 1813; md. 1838, James Cooper of Jamaica Plain; she d. about 1827.
3 II. *John T. G.*, b. Nov. 10, 1814; d. Aug. 14, 1829.
4 III. *Samuel H.*, b. Aug. 13, 1816; md. 1841, Elizabeth C. Newell of Lynn; a farmer; he d. in this town March 31, 1843.
5 IV. *Daniel B.*, b. Oct. 22, 1818; md. Mary Jane Stevens; d. Aug. 14, 1856, in Boston.
6 V. *Elizabeth J.*, b. Aug. 27, 1822; md. James Cooper of Weston.
7 VI. *Sarah H.*, b. Oct. 19, 1824; md. Lewis K. Ward, son of Jacob Ward, *q. v.*
8 VII. *Charles S.*, b. Feb. 23, 1827; resides unmd. in this town.
9 VIII. *Catherine W.*, b. July 13, 1832; md. Feb. 26, 1854, Otis P. Butler of Rindge, son of Jabez and Betsey (Boyden) Butler; she d. April 7, 1880.
10 IX. *Caroline W.* (twin), b. July 13, 1832; md. Nov. 15, 1870, Aaron S. Sawtell, son of Aaron and Ruth (Metcalf) Sawtell of Rindge; she d. Oct. 4, 1878.

1 JOHN KIBLING, one of the German emigrants, was an early settler in this town. The name was written Kiblinger through two generations, and in this form the name appears in the early chapters of this volume. He was b. in Germany 1722, and in 1758, being one of the seven original proprietors of the Lexington grant, he removed to this town. He settled upon land since known as the Constantine farm, and in 1785 he exchanged farms with Jacob Constantine and removed to the farm now of Alden B. Marble. He was a man of recognized character and ability. He was a selectman nine years between 1765 and 1777, the dates of incorporation and of his death. His wife, Catherine (Wolfe) Kiblinger, lives in the traditions of the town as an intelligent and accomplished lady. He d. April 4, 1777; she d. at the home of one of her children in Vermont March 28, 1821, aged 91.

2 I. *Jacob*, b. Dec. 14, 1753.+
3 II. *John*, b. Sept. 3, 1755.+
4 III. *Catherine*, b. Nov. 27, 1757; md. Samuel Salter, *q. v.*

5 iv. *Jane*, b. March 12, 1760; md. Jonathan Lawrence, *q. v.*
6 v. *Elizabeth*, b. April 24, 1763; md. Jan. 19, 1785, Humphrey Rood of Hartland, Vt.
7 vi. *Sarah*, b. July 14, 1765.
8 vii. *Margaret*, b. 1767; d. Dec. 5, 1768. This was the first death recorded by Mr. Cushing. Alas! how many since.
9 viii. *Hannah*, b. Oct. 18, 1769; md. 1789, Nathaniel Kendall of Windsor, Vt.
10 ix. *Henry*, b. May 15, 1768.+

(2) Dea. Jacob Kiblinger, upon whom the mantle of his father appeared to fall, was one of the influential men of the town. He was a selectman many years and acceptably filled many other positions of trust. He was a deacon of the Baptist organization, with which several families of this town were connected. For many years the town chose tithingmen and supplemented the record with the choice of Dea. Jacob Kiblinger, tithingman for the Baptists. His name is borne on the Revolutionary rolls, serving at least three enlistments which are stated in Chapter V. About 1802 he removed to Stafford, Vt., where he d. 1839. He md. Feb. 21, 1777, Sarah Coolidge, dau. of Elisha Coolidge, *q. v.*

11 i. *John*, b. May 9, 1778.+
12 ii. *Sarah*, b. Feb. 3, 1780; md. —— Bundy.
13 iii. *Katy*, b. May 3, 1782; md. Sylvanus Graves.
14 iv. *Jacob*, b. Nov. 9, 1784; md. Sally Slyfield.
15 v. *Betty*, b. March 16, 1793; md. Benjamin George.
16 vi. *Sylvia*, b. Oct. 15, 1795; md. Thomas Haselton.
17 vii. *Stillman*, b. March 26, 1800; md. Adaline Hatch.

(3) John Kibling md. July 6, 1778, Betty Fisher, and removed from this town to Vermont, about 1786. He was a soldier in the Revolution. *Vide* Chap. V.

18 i. *John*, b. Jan. 20, 1779.
19 ii. *Jeremiah*, b. Oct. 17, 1781.
20 iii. *Josiah*, b. May 25, 1783.

(10) Capt. Henry Kibling was a captain of the militia company in 1801. In the War of 1812 he was in the service in a Vermont regiment. About this time he suffered the amputation of a leg on account of an improper treatment of a broken bone. With a substitute of wood his movements were strong and rapid. He md. Jan. 1, 1799,

Sukey Hobart, dau. of Shebuel Hobart, *q. v.* In the record of births her name is written Susannah. He d. Jan. 28, 1843.

21 I. *Susan*, b. Dec. 27, 1799; md. Harvey Heald, *q. v.*
22 II. *Hobart F.*, b. March 2, 1802; md. Eleanor Crawford of Malone, N. Y. They buried three little children in July, 1832. He removed from town 1833, and has not since been heard from.
23 III. *Henry*, b. April 24, 1804.+
24 IV. *George W.*, b. March 26, 1810, resided in Ashburnham until 1842, when he removed to Hanover, N. H., where he still resides and has there been successfully engaged in business. He md. Sarah Fisher and has children: Harriet, Elizabeth and George.
25 V. *Osman*, b. July 21, 1812; d. Sept. 29, 1825.
26 VI. *Joseph H.*, b. Sept. 20, 1814; md. 1835, Elvira Norris of Jaffrey, N. H.; md. (2d) Dora Harlow of Portland, Me.; md. (3d) 1871, Mary Evans Carson of Portland, Oregon. He d. at Portland, Oregon, April 15, 1879.
27 VII. *Cyrene*, b. Dec. 27, 1816; md. George Baker, *q. v.*
28 VIII. *Orilla*, b. March 9, 1820; md. 1837, George W. Townsend. They resided in this town where she d. Aug. 2, 1844. He md. (2d) Abigail Lane, dau. of Elias Lane, *q. v.*

(11) John Kibling, son of Dea. Jacob, md. Nov. 20, 1800, Sarah Lane, dau. of Col. Francis Lane, *q. v.* He was a farmer in New Hampshire and Vermont, and subsequently at Lane Village. He d. Jan. 17, 1846; she d. Aug. 19, 1865.

29 I. *Francis*, b. Feb. 10, 1801.+
30 II. *Clarissa H.*, b. Aug. 16, 1802; md. Oct. 14, 1820, Mansel Haselton; md. (2d) Jan. 17, 1828, Nathan King of Shirley; he d. June 23, 1860.
31 III. *Hepsibeth*, b. 1805; d. Nov., 1815.
32 IV. *Emeline*, b. March 24, 1807; md. Samuel Foster, son of Nathaniel Foster, *q. v.*
33 V. *Miranda*, b. Jan. 27, 1813; md. Oct. 29, 1835, Joseph A. Gibson, b. in New Ipswich Oct. 29, 1835, son of Dr. Stillman Gibson. They resided in New Ipswich, where he d. Feb. 22, 1875.

34 1. J. Stillman, b. Jan. 27, 1837; md. Oct. 27, 1864, Lucinda J. Foskett.
35 2. Angelia M., b. Aug. 10, 1838; md. Aug. 27, 1864, Levi S. Wright.
36 3. Henry M., b. March 20, 1840; d. March 9, 1841.
37 4. Annie M., b. July 10, 1842; md. 1869, Richard J. Hargreaves.
38 5. Sarah R., b April 8, 1845; md. July 6, 1879, George W. Shattuck.
39 6. Frederic J., b. Dec. 28, 1848.
40 7. Elsie E., b. Dec. 19, 1851; d. June 27, 1874.
41 8. L. Angenette, b. March 10, 1855.

42 VI. *Lucy Ann*, b. July 8, 1820; md. 1841, Horace L. Balcom, b. in Leverett Jan. 23, 1815, son of Reuben and Elizabeth (Hartwell) Balcom; resided in Ashburnham, where she d. Aug. 5, 1855; he md. (2d) Nov. 16, 1856, Jeanette D. Ketchum, b. in Milton, Vt., Sept. 5, 1821. There are two children of Horace L. and Lucy (Kibling) Balcom.

43 1. Francis S., b. Oct. 1, 1843; md. Addie Rugg.
44 2. Elsie Maria, b. Aug. 16, 1848; md. 1869, Adelbert A. Bradford, son of Austin A. Bradford. Reside in Rindge.

(23) Capt. Henry Kibling, Jr., was an active citizen of this town until his removal to Dublin in 1862 or 1863. He was a popular officer in the Light Infantry and an account of this service appears in Chap. XVIII. He md. June 7, 1829, Mary Jewett Woods, dau. of John Woods, *q. v.*; she d. Aug. 10, 1848; md. (2d) Jan. 10, 1849, Maria C. Peabody, b. Sept. 4, 1828; she d. Aug. 17, 1853; md. (3d) Jan. 12, 1854, Ellen L. Peabody, b. Oct. 31, 1826; she d. Dec. 7, 1857; md. (4th) May 4, 1858, Eliza (Marshall) Matthews, b. July 25, 1804; she d. Aug. 27, 1880; he d. July 7, 1884.

45 I. *Mary Elizabeth*, b. Nov. 5, 1830; d. June 17, 1846.
46 II. *Henry Osman*, b. May 22, 1832; d. July 30, 1854.
47 III. *Joseph Heald*, b. March 16, 1834; d. May 22, 1854.
48 IV. *Elvira Amanda*, b. Feb. 27, 1836; d. Aug. 15, 1854.

49 v. *Emily Amelia*, b. April 24, 1838; d. Oct. 1, 1839.
50 vi. *Edward Atkinson*, b. Feb. 23, 1841; d. Oct. 22, 1841.
51 vii. *Alfred Miller*, b. Oct. 13, 1849; railroad engineer, Boston.
52 viii. *Erlon Arthur*, b. June 28, 1851; railroad engineer, Boston.
53 ix. *Flora Maria*, b. May 28, 1853; md. 1873, Charles G. Matthews of Hancock, N. H.; she d. Oct. 20, 1881.

(29) Francis Kibling, son of John, md. Feb. 23, 1825, Waity Lawrence, dau. of Moses Lawrence, *q. v.* He resided at Lane Village. His wife d. Dec. 12, 1860; he md. (2d) Dec. 15, 1861, Paulina (Locke) Streeter, widow of Thomas Streeter of Rindge. He d. Aug. 13, 1878; his widow resides in Fitchburg.

54 i. *Elsie L.*, b. March 23, 1826; md. Dr. Alfred Miller, *q. v.*
55 ii. *J. Augustus*, b. Aug., 1828; md. Mary Hastings.
56 iii. *Francis G.*, b. Nov., 1832; md. March 18, 1858, Laura A. Whitmore, dau. of Col. Enoch Whitmore, *q. v.* Enlisted in 21st Regiment; d. in the service Feb. 22, 1864.

57 1. Luella J., b. June 17, 1860; d. Aug. 7, 1868.
58 2. Walter B., b. April 20, 1862.
59 3. Frank A., b. Jan. 18, 1864.

1 Daniel Knight md. Esther Fairbanks, dau. of Phinehas Fairbanks, and removed from Harvard to this town 1788. The family disappear from the records about 1812. Of some families we can easily learn more than we want to know, but of this one the shades of night conceal the record. Only a fragmentary account of the children can be given.

2 i. *Daniel*, b. 1786; d. Sept. 13, 1803.
3 ii. *Polly Dickinson*, bap. Nov. 23, 1788.
4 iii. *Phinehas Fairbanks*, bap. April 3, 1796.
5 iv. *William*, bap. April 3, 1796.
6 v. *Sarah*, bap. April 3, 1796.
7 vi. *Cyrus*, bap. Oct. 20, 1805.
8 vii. *Daniel*, bap. Oct. 20, 1805.
9 viii. *Stedman*, bap. Sept. 13, 1807.
10 ix. *Infant*, d. Dec. 19, 1810.

11 x. *Infant* (twin), d. Dec. 19, 1810.
A child of Daniel and Esther Knight, d. Sept. 21, 1805.

12 Samuel Knight, b. 1776, removed to Fitzwilliam, N. H., 1830, and four years later he came to this town. He was an innholder at Central Village, and subsequently resided at Factory Village. His wife, Catherine, d. Nov. 30, 1842. He md. (2d) Aug. 29, 1843, Madamoisella (Townsend) Dunster, *q. v.* He d. Aug. 18, 1850; she md. (3d) Sept. 5, 1851, Samuel Keyes of Temple, N. H., who d. Nov. 5, 1852; she d. in Ashby Nov. 25, 1881. The only children of Samuel and Catherine Knight of whom any record appears were as follows:

13 i. *Samuel D.*, b. ——; resided several years in this town.

14 ii. *Israel W.*, b. ——; he was the proprietor several years of the Central House and of the coaches running to Ashburnham Junction. He md. 1836, Tryphosa M. Moore of Leverett. She d. Oct. 1, 1841; md. (2d) May 30, 1843, Mary A. Wheeler of Ashby; he d. Sept. 5, 1858; she md. (2d) Nov. 22, 1860, S. Gilman Frost of Fitchburg.

15 1. James M., b. Aug. 26, 1837; md. 1858, Charlotte Kidder; d. in Keene, N. H., May 21, 1883.

16 2. Persis A. W., b. April 14, 1840; d. Sept. 20, 1848.

17 3. Charles M., b. March 29, 1846; d. Sept. 22, 1846.

18 4. Cynthia E., b. June 5, 1848; md. Dec. 7, 1868, George A. Upton (Adams 85); she d. May 28, 1885.

LANE.

The Lane families of this town are descendants of John Lane who d. in Bedford Dec. 7, 1789, aged 69. The earlier American generations are clearly stated in Hazen's History of Billerica, from which the following outline is drawn. Job Lane, an English emigrant, b. 1634, was a resident of Malden in 1654. He was a carpenter, and built a house in New London, Conn., in payment of the Winthrop farm of 1500 acres in Billerica, of which he acquired possession in 1664. About this time he removed to Billerica, and in 1668 he built the great bridge across Concord river. After a residence of twenty years in Billerica he returned to Malden, where he d. Aug. 23, 1697. He owned an estate in England which he bequeathed to his son, John. His first wife was Sarah, who d. 1659; he md. (2d) 1660, Anna Reyner, dau. of Rev. John Reyner of Plymouth and Dover, N. H.; she d. Aug. 30, 1704, aged 72.

John Lane, son of Job and Anna (Reyner) Lane, was b. in Malden in Oct., 1661. He was an only son and he inherited one-half the Winthrop farm in Billerica where he resided. He was a colonel of the militia, and was prominent in the Indian wars and alarms of that period, and was a selectman eleven years. He md. March 20, 1681–2, Susanna Whipple, dau. of John Whipple of Ipswich; she d. Aug. 4, 1713; he d. in the midst of an honorable career Jan. 17, 1714–15.

Job Lane, son of John and Susanna (Whipple) Lane, was b. in Billerica June 22, 1689; md. Dec. 16, 1713, Martha Ruggles, b. in Roxbury, dau. of Samuel and Martha (Woodbridge) Ruggles and a sister of Rev. Samuel Ruggles of Billerica. He inherited the homestead and lived in Billerica, where he d. after 1762.

John Lane, son of Job and Martha (Ruggles) Lane, b. Oct. 2, 1720, removed to Bedford and was there an influential citizen. He md. Feb. 13, 1745–6, Ruth Bowman, b. in Lexington Dec. 23, 1723, dau. of John and Mary (Stone) Bowman; she d. Aug. 13, 1759. He md. (2d) May 28, 1761, Mrs. Sarah Hildreth. There were eight children by the first and three by the second marriage.

1 Col. Francis Lane, son of John and Ruth (Bowman) Lane, was b. in Bedford Aug. 31, 1750. As a soldier in the Revolution his familiar name first appears in the records of Ashburnham. He was a corporal in Capt. Gates' company in April, 1775, and he served as a sergeant in Capt. Wilder's company to the close of the year. As early as 1779 he was a lieutenant, and July 1, 1781, he was commissioned a captain of the militia. During the Revolution the regimental and line officers were also provost officers, and to them were directed the frequent orders for raising men and the adjustment of quotas. Subsequently he was a major and a lieutenant-colonel until his resignation in 1792. Col. Lane removed to Ashburnham in the spring of 1775 or earlier. He was a farmer and a miller. For several years he lived on the "Hart Place," and then removed to Lane Village, where he built and conducted a saw and grain mill. For many years he was prominent in town affairs, and his name frequently appears in the list of town officers. During the later years of his life he mingled less freely with his townsmen, and his name is seldom met in the records. He md. Sept. 30, 1779, Hepsibah Coolidge, b. in Waltham March 9, 1754, dau. of Capt. William and Elizabeth (Brown) Coolidge; she d. March 14, 1795. He md. (2d) 1801, Sarah (Cushing) Burr, widow of John Burr of Winchendon, and dau. of Joseph and Sarah (Leavitt) Cushing. He d. May 1, 1823.

2 i. *John Coolidge*, b. July 2, 1781; d. Sept. 16, 1781.
3 ii. *Sarah*, b. June 11, 1782; md. John Kibling, *q. v.*
4 iii. *Lucy*, b. July 6, 1783; md. John Jones, *q. v.*
5 iv. *Elias*, b. Feb. 21, 1785.+
6 v. *Abigail*, b. June 1, 1786; d. Aug. 31, 1786.
7 vi. *Francis*, b. Aug. 20, 1787.+

8 VII. *Abigail*, b. May 20, 1789; d. unmd. Dec. 13, 1813.
9 VIII. *John*, b. May 15, 1791; d. March 19, 1792.
10 IX. *John*, b. Oct. 9, 1792.+

(5) ELIAS LANE md. Sept. 8, 1809, Anna Jones, dau. of Nathan Jones, *q. v.* He was a farmer and a miller, residing near the school-house in the tenth district. He was a selectman, and was elected to other positions of trust. He d. Aug. 20, 1859; she d. March 30, 1853.

11 I. *Elias Coolidge*, b. Dec. 30, 1809; md. Sept. 20, 1835, Mary Farwell; removed to Gloucester, Me., where he d. Aug., 1878.
12 II. *Sarah Ann*, b. March 2, 1811; d. unmd. Feb. 28, 1862.
13 III. *George Etheridge*, b. April 22, 1812; md. Jan. 15, 1840, Mary J. Emory, dau. of Enos Emory, *q. v.* They reside in Fitchburg.
14 IV. *Gilbert Bainbridge*, b. June 17, 1813; md. Eliza A. Jones, and removed to Chelsea, Vt., where he d. June 9, 1860.
15 V. *Edwin Philander*, b. Dec. 28, 1814; d. unmd. in Gloucester, Me., Aug. 30, 1838.
16 VI. *Charles Stillman*, b. March 2, 1816; md. Nov. 17, 184–, Honor Goodrich; md. (2d) Helen (Pettis) Lawton; resides in Brattleboro', Vt.
17 VII. *Lorenzo Alexander*, b. March 26, 1817; md. Rebecca Brown; he d. in Ashburnham Feb. 12, 1881; she d. the same day, Feb. 12, 1881.
18 VIII. *Abigail Amanda*, b. May 25, 1818; md. Nov. 26, 1845, George W. Townsend; she d. Feb. 19, 1884.
19 IX. *Mary Jones*, b. July 27, 1820; d. April 1, 1839.
20 X. *Marcus Aurelius*, b. June 2, 1822; md. Amanda Ogden; resides in Glens Falls, N. Y.
21 XI. *Eliza Maria*, b. June 25, 1823; md. Oct. 11, 1848, Charles Henry Emory, son of Enos Emory, *q. v.*
22 XII. *Abraham Lowe*, b. Nov. 23, 1824; d. unmd. in Rindge May 4, 1863.
23 XIII. *Nancy Augusta*, b. March 24, 1826; md. Feb. 8, 1849, Henry A. Smith, b. June 5, 1817, son of Henry and Asenath (Rand) Smith of Rindge; resided in Townsend, Rindge and Franklin; she d. Sept. 9, 1883.
24 XIV. *Marilla Jane*, b. July 1, 1827; md. Nov. 24, 1850, Pascal P. Emory, son of Enos Emory, *q. v.*

25 xv. *Lucy Matilda*, b. June 30, 1829; md. Francis A. Whitney, son of Ohio Whitney, *q. v.*

(7) Francis Lane was a captain of the militia. He was a man of good judgment and was successful in the conduct of the mill at Lane Village. He md. Nov. 11, 1811, Susannah Foster, dau. of Samuel Foster, *q. v.* He d. Oct. 11, 1856; she d. March 15, 1867.

26 i. *Allen Francis*, b. March 24, 1812; md. Oct. 28, 1840, Laura P. Tyler. He was a farmer and a mechanic. He d. Dec. 3, 1886; resided on the Timothy Fisher place.

27 1. Henry T., b. Sept. 20, 1841; he d. in the service in the Civil War, Oct. 29, 1864.
28 2. Infant, b. May 8, 1843; d. May 18, 1843.
29 3. Laura A., b. Nov. 25, 1844; md. William Richardson of Fitchburg.
30 4. Emma L., b. April 8, 1847; d. Sept. 1, 1847.
31 5. Ellen M., b. Oct. 25, 1849; md. Nov. 27, 1879, Charles T. Harding of Fitchburg.
32 6. Albert, b. March 22, 1853; md. June 19, 1881, Ada E. Lyndes; resides in Westminster.
33 7. James A., b. Nov. 18, 1854; md. Dec. 17, 1881, Carrie Belle McIntire, dau. of Robert W. McIntire, *q. v.*; a carpenter at Lane Village.
34 8. Francis W., b. Oct. 24, 1858; Dartmouth College 1881; an Examiner of Pensions. *Vide* page 508. He md. Dec. 26, 1881, Gertrude D. Kilbourne, dau. of Lewis S. and Gertrude B. (Dewey) Kilbourne of Litchfield, Conn.
35 9. Justin E., b. April 8, 1861; d. June 17, 1861.

36 ii. *Hepsibah*, b. June 14, 1813; md. Aug. 3, 1843, Israel A. Packard, *q. v.*
37 iii. *Amos F.*, b. Jan. 30, 1815; md. June 26, 1839, Martha Ward, dau. of Nathaniel D. Ward, *q. v.* He d. March 7, 1878; she d. Jan. 28, 1862.

38 1. William W., b. Nov. 7, 1841; unmd.; resides in Ashburnham.
39 2. Albert Francis, b. Feb. 24, 1844; d. Sept. 16, 1847.

40 3. Sarah N., b. April 8, 1846; d. Sept. 14, 1847.

41 4. George F., b. Oct. 15, 1848; resides in Kingston; md. Sept. 28, 1878, Abbie Maglathlin, who d. Jan. 23, 1880; md. (2d) March 6, 1881, D. Marinda Keevy. Two children. He is a merchant and postmaster.

42 5. Elmira J., b. Dec. 30, 1850; md. —— Walker; resides in Minnesota.

43 6. Oman F., b. March 31, 1853; unmd.; resides in Ashburnham.

44 7. Mary E., b. May 25, 1856; md. Charles A. Haven, son of Elijah Haven, *q. v.*

45 8. Walter A., b. July 19, 1858; resides in Kingston; md. Sept. 9, 1883, Eva T. Wright. Two children.

46 9. Samuel A., b. July 26, 1860; d. Sept. 3, 1860.

47 10. John F., b. Aug. 22, 1861; d. April 28, 1864.

48 IV. *Samuel*, b. May 21, 1817; md. Dec. 30, 1841, Nancy H. Eaton, b. April 18, 1822, dau. of Joel Eaton of Fitchburg. He d. Nov. 6, 1856; she md. (2d) Jan. 1, 1861, Charles B. Jones, son of John E. and Cynthia (Lincoln) Jones. They reside at Lane Village.

49 1. Joel E., b. April 18, 1843; d. Jan 1, 1859.

50 2. Mary S., b. Jan. 20, 1845; d. Dec. 5, 1845.

51 3. S. Edward, b. Oct. 18, 1846; md. June 3, 1866, Edna L. Pierce; resides in Royalston.

52 4. Frederick D., b. July 4, 1849; Dartmouth College 1878; an instructor in Cushing Academy. *Vide* page 508.

53 5. Susetta M., b. Oct 20, 1850; d. Dec. 23, 1858.

54 V. *Milton*, b. Feb. 27, 1819; md. Nov. 5, 1851, Mary Parkhurst, b. Aug. 1, 1831; she d. Oct. 25, 1863; md. (2d) Jan., 1867, Jane (Pierce) Flagg; he d. —— 1876; she md. J. Chauncey Lawrence, *q. v.*

55 1. Ella M., b. Sept. 10, 1855; unmd.; resides in Rindge.

56 2. Hattie P., b. Dec. 16, 1857; unmd.; resides in Fitchburg.
57 3. Genery M., b. Oct. 19, 1860; resides in Ashburnham.
58 4. Delia M., b. March 25, 1863; resides in Ashburnham.
59 5. Gertrude E., b. Nov. 4, 1867.
60 6. Herbert L., b. Nov. 20, 1869.

61 VI. *Leonard*, b. April 21, 1821; md. June 4, 1856, Lucy Pollard, dau. of William Pollard, *q. v.*; resides on the Samuel Cutting farm.

62 1. Ada Estella, b. May 10, 1859; d. Jan. 1, 1863.

63 VII. *Hosea*, b. April 20, 1823; d. Aug. 7, 1828.
64 VIII. *Susan W.*, b. Jan. 23, 1825; unmd.; resides in Ashburnham.
65 IX. *Rebecca Clarissa*, b. Jan. 29, 1827; md. Merrick Eaton, son of Josiah Eaton, *q. v.*
66 X. *Eleanor Jane*, b. Jan. 27, 1829; md. Daniel W. Lane, son of Benjamin Lane, Jr., *q. v.*
67 XI. *Hosea Foster*, b. Feb. 7, 1831. For thirty years he has been the efficient principal of the Templeton High School. He md. Aug. 16, 1858, Elizabeth E. Fairbanks, dau. of Emory Fairbanks, *q. v.*

68 1. Charles H., b. Sept. 14, 1859.
69 2. Arthur Francis, b. July 17, 1861; d. Oct. 17, 1862.

70 XII. *Charles W.*, b. Aug. 15, 1833; md. Oct. 31, 1867, Philena (Howard) Packard, b. Jan. 20, 1834, widow of Horace C. Packard and dau. of Josiah Howard of Hinsdale, N. H. He resides on the homestead.

71 1. Harry Charles, b. Jan. 29, 1872.

(10) JOHN LANE md. April 10, 1822, Anna Cook, dau. of John Cook, *q. v.* He resided on the Henry Willard farm now owned by his daughter. He d. Dec. 13, 1845; she d. Aug. 27, 1851.

72 I. *Mary A.*, b. Oct. 12, 1832; md. William H. Emory, *q. v.*

73 LIEUT. BENJAMIN LANE, a brother of Col. Francis, was b. in Bedford March 17, 1754. He came to Ashburn-

ham in the spring of 1780, and settled on the road leading from the old common to the "Children of the Woods." The premises are still known as the Benjamin Lane place. While he was clearing land and building a house for himself he boarded with his brother, and when the house was burned he lost his clothing except one suit, which was probably the best one, as he was attending church at the time of the fire. In 1781 he was chosen an agent to procure the beef levied as a tax upon the towns of the State, and subsequently his name is often found in the records of town meetings. He md. Anna Page; she d. Sept. 4, 1784; he md. (2d) May 26, 1785, Isabel Hill, b. Dec. 3, 1761, dau. of Jonathan and Mary (Lane) Hill of Billerica, and a sister of Ralph Hill of Ashby. He d. Dec. 20, 1835; his wife d. Jan. 1, 1833.

74 I. *Dolly*, b. Oct. 18, 1780; d. Jan. 20, 1784.
75 II. *Josiah*, b. March 28, 1782.+
76 III. *Isabel*, b. July 7, 1788; d. unmd. Feb. 13, 1825.
77 IV. *Benjamin*, b. 1786; d. July 31, 1791.
78 V. *Dolly*, b. May 22, 1790; md. July 25, 1826, Benjamin Howard of Ashby; she d. Nov. 3, 1833.
79 VI. *Anna*, b. April 29, 1792; md. June 28, 1812, William Stearns.
80 VII. *Roxanna*, b. Oct. 4, 1793; md. John Cook, Jr., *q. v.*
81 VIII. *Benjamin*, b. June 23, 1795.+
82 IX. *Lucinda*, b. Dec. 11, 1797; md. 1823, John W. Cutting of Weston; she d. April 20, 1854.
83 X. *Susan*, b. Oct. 29, 1799; md. March, 1831, Benjamin Jaquith of Ashby; md. (2d) Nathaniel Swain; she d. Oct. 6, 1880.
84 XI. *Sally*, b. Oct. 8, 1801; md. Dec. 28, 1828, Franklin Stearns of Billerica, b. Jan. 25, 1802, son of John and Mary (Lane) Stearns and a brother of Gov. Onslow Stearns of New Hampshire. Six children.
85 XII. *Melinda*, b. May 21, 1804; md. Nov. 29, 1838, Benjamin Ward, *q. v.*

(75) JOSIAH LANE md. March 28, 1805, Nancy Wilder, dau. of Caleb Wilder, *q. v.* They resided in this town until 1828, when with nine children, leaving four little graves in the cemetery, they removed to Cambridge. While a resident of this town he established and conducted a post route between Ashburnham and Worcester. He d. in Anoka, Minn., Feb. 28, 1876, aged 94 years. His wife d. in Somerville, May 4, 1853.

86 I. *Julia Ann Cushing*, b. Oct. 7, 1805; md. Jan. 22, 1835, H. A. Harrington; d. in Anoka, Minn., Feb. 10, 1881.

87 II. *Mary Jane Woodward*, b. July 19, 1807; md. John L. Prather.

88 III. *Charles W.*, b. Jan. 31, 1809; d. Dec. 2, 1809.

89 IV. *George V.*, b. Nov. 28, 1810; d. Oct. 7, 1813.

90 V. *Nancy W.*, b. Feb. 28, 1812; d. Dec. 2, 1813.

91 VI. *Alexander Page*, b. Aug. 30, 1814; md. 1836, Anna M. Favor; resides at Eureka Springs, Ark.

92 VII. *Augustus Joy*, b. Dec. 26, 1815; md. 1841, Susan Skidmore; d. at Wilbraham Oct. 11, 1880.

93 VIII. *Electa Frances Wilder*, b. June 19, 1817; md. Dec. 31, 1837, Aquilla Willette; d. in Davenport, Iowa, Sept. 2, 1839.

94 IX. *David Hyslop*, b. April 2, 1820; md. July 13, 1845, Harriet L. Bettinson; d. in Anoka, Minn., Nov. 13, 1878.

95 X. *Joseph Hayden*, b. Oct. 25, 1822; md. Hester Prather; resides at Chicago, Ill.

96 XI. *George S. W.*, b. Sept. 15, 1824; d. Feb. 15, 1825.

97 XII. *John S. W.* (twin), b. Sept. 15, 1824; md. Dec. 31, 1848, Sarah Cushing; resides at Boston.

98 XIII. *Thomas Parkman Cushing*, b. May 30, 1827; md. Dec. 18, 1861, Helen M. Rose; resides at Mattoon, Ill.

(81) BENJAMIN LANE md. Dec., 1823, Abigail Walker, dau. of John and Mary (Stratton) Walker of New Ipswich. He was a farmer. He d. Oct. 18, 1880.

99 I. *Daniel Walker*, b. Dec. 4, 1824; md. Feb. 9, 1852, Jerusha E. Bemis; she d. Sept. 3, 1872; he md. (2d) April 23, 1874, Eleanor J. Lane, dau. of Francis Lane, Jr., *q. v.* He is a farmer.

100 1. Loretta, b. Dec. 14, 1852; d. Jan. 27, 1853.

101 2. Cyrus W., b. Feb. 23, 1854.

102 3. Minerva L., b. March 15, 1857.

103 II. *Sarah*, b. Aug. 8, 1827; d. Jan. 13, 1828.

104 III. *Martin B. Lane*, b. Sept. 4, 1828; md. Nov. 1, 1865, Carrie N. Adams, b. July 29, 1846, dau. of Capt. William Adams of Townsend. He was several years a merchant in this town, and is now a salesman.

105 1. Henry Martin, b. Nov. 28, 1867.
106 2. Willie Frank, b. July 22, 1870.
107 3. Abbott Benjamin, b. Jan. 4, 1876.
108 4. Mabel Augusta, b. June 7, 1879.
109 5. Orrie Adams, b. April 1, 1884.

110 iv. *George*, b. Sept. 23, 1829; md. Aug. 27, 1860, Mary A. Castella, b. March 15, 1837. He is a merchant in Newton.

111 v. *Sarah Abigail*, b. March 31, 1831; md. Oct. 5, 1865, Joseph Hague; reside in Malden.

112 vi. *Mary Ann*, b. April 5, 1832; d. July 5, 1842.

113 vii. *Emeline*, b. June 20, 1834; d. July 13, 1854.

114 viii. *Sophronia Asenath*, b. Oct. 20, 1835; d. Oct. 17, 1863.

115 ix. *Sewell Stearns*, b. Aug. 28, 1838; md. Feb. 7, 1867, Sarah Josephine Lovett of New Ipswich, b. Jan. 17, 1843. He is a merchant in Gardner.

116 WILLARD LANE, lineage not traced, md. Nov. 28, 1782, Lucy Stone, dau. of Oliver Stone, *q. v.* He lived in Fitzwilliam, N. H., a short time and removed to Ashburnham in 1783 and began tanning in Central Village. He sold the tan-yard to Dea. William J. Lawrence in 1797, and soon after removed from town. He d. March 15, 1818; his widow d. Jan. 13, 1832. They did not die in this town. No record of children, if any, has been found, except the death of an infant March 13, 1786.

LAWRENCE.

The name of Lawrence has been continued in this town without interruption since 1775. In addition to a few transient residents there are four distinct families of Lawrence in this town, and all are descendants of John Lawrence the emigrant ancestor. Amos Lawrence (No. 1) and the father of Dea. William J. Lawrence (No. 42) were first cousins; they also were first cousins of Dea. Samuel Lawrence of Groton, the father of Hon. Abbott Lawrence. Alethon Lawrence (No. 46) and Jeremiah, the father of Jeremiah Lawrence (No. 78) were second cousins; but Elnathan and Jeremiah Lawrence on the one hand and Amos and Dea. William J. Lawrence on the other were remotely connected, having been descended from different sons of the emigrant ancestor. A brief record of the generations is given.

John Lawrence, son of Henry and Mary Lawrence, bap. at Wisset, England, Oct. 8, 1609, is found a resident of Watertown in 1636. He was admitted freeman April 17, 1637. In 1662 he removed to Groton and was chosen to the first board of selectmen in that town. He md. Elizabeth ——, by whom he had thirteen children; she d. at Groton Aug. 29, 1663; he md. (2d) Nov. 2, 1664, Susannah Batchelder who was the mother of two children; he d. at Groton July 11, 1667; his widow d. July 8, 1668.

Dea. Nathaniel Lawrence, son of John and Elizabeth Lawrence, was b. at Watertown, Oct. 15, 1639. He resided in Sudbury, Groton and Lexington. While a resident of Groton, he was a deacon, a representative and was prominent in public affairs. He md. March 13, 1660–1, Sarah Morse, b. Sept. 16, 1643, dau. of John and Hannah (Phillips) Morse of Dedham. He md. (2d)

Hannah ——. He d. at Sudbury April 14, 1724. Among the children of Dea. Nathaniel and Sarah (Morse) Lawrence was John Lawrence, b. July 29, 1667. He was a farmer and a blacksmith in Groton until 1693, when he removed to Lexington, and there was an assessor, constable and selectman. He md. Nov. 9, 1687, Anna Tarbell, b. June 10, 1670, dau. of Thomas, Jr., and Anna (Longley) Tarbell. He d. March 12, 1746–7; his wife d. Dec. 19, 1732. Benjamin Lawrence, son of John and Anna (Tarbell) Lawrence, b. May 24, 1713, md. Feb. 12, 1734–5, Jane Russell, b. July 19, 1711, dau. of Jonathan and Elizabeth Russell of Lexington. He resided in Lexington, Westboro', and in 1749 he removed to Boston. He d. in Harvard July 5, 1767; his widow came to Ashburnham with her son Amos (No. 1) and d. here Aug. 11, 1786, aged, says Mr. Cushing, 73 years.

Another son of John and Anna (Tarbell) Lawrence of Groton and Lexington, was Jonathan Lawrence, b. Feb. 13, bap. Feb. 24, 1706. He lived in Sudbury, Framingham, and about 1740 he removed to Lexington where he was frequently elected to office. He md. Feb. 26, 1727, Elizabeth Swain. He d. March 19, 1773; his widow d. July 4, 1790. In his will appears a clause, "I give my negroes among all my children to be settled among them as they shall agree." There were ten children and among them was Jonathan Lawrence, b. in Framingham Feb. 5, 1734. He settled first in Woburn, where he md. Dec. 13, 1737, Elizabeth Johnson. In 1773 or 1774, with six children, they removed from Woburn to Ashby, where he d. Nov. 26, 1799; his wife d. Dec. 26, 1782; he md. (2d) 1784, Lydia Davis. Dea. William J. Lawrence (No. 42) was a son of Jonathan and Elizabeth (Johnson) Lawrence.

A younger son of John Lawrence, the emigrant ancestor, was Peleg Lawrence, b. Jan. 10, 1646–7; md. 1668, Elizabeth Morse, b. Sept. 1, 1647, a sister of the wife of his brother, Dea. Nathaniel. He resided in Groton, where he d. 1692. Major Eleazer Lawrence, son of Peleg and Elizabeth (Morse) Lawrence, was b. in Groton Feb. 28, 1674. He resided in Groton, until after 1722, and there by wife Mary his ten children were b. Subsequently he removed to Littleton, where he was an influential citizen several years. He d. at Pepperell, probably at the home of his eldest son, March 9, 1754; his widow d. June 29, 1761, aged 82. Samuel Lawrence, son of Major Eleazer, b. in Groton May 2, 1714, md. May 6, 1737, Mary Hildreth of Westford. He resided in Littleton until about 1741, when he removed to Westford, and there remained about twenty years. Late in life he removed to Ashby where two of his sons were residing. He d. about 1789; his wife d. March 17, 1788. Charles Lawrence, son of Samuel and Mary (Hildreth) Lawrence, was b in Littleton Jan. 20, 1740–1; he md. Naomi ——. Their eldest child was b. in Groton, 1764; the second in Harvard 1766, the third in Ashby 1768, and five others in Ashby from 1771 to 1781. He d. in Ashby May 22, 1825; his wife d. June 2, 1805. Among the eight children of Charles and Naomi Lawrence were Reuben, whose descendants have resided in this town, and Alethon (No. 46).

Another son of Major Eleazer Lawrence was Dea. Jonathan Lawrence, b. in Groton Oct. 4, 1703; he removed to Littleton where he was a useful citizen, and d. Dec. 8, 1789. He md. Tryphena Powers who d. Aug. 25, 1752; he md. (2d) Oct. 10, 1754, Lydia Fletcher who d. March 21, 1803, aged 90. Peter Lawrence, son of Dea. Jonathan and Tryphena (Powers) Lawrence, b. Oct. 7, 1742, md. Persis ——. He removed to Townsend about the date of his marriage, and when Ashby was incorporated his land was included in that town. He was an active citizen and his name is familiar in the early records of Ashby. He d. Oct. 21, 1798. Jeremiah Lawrence, his son, md. Rachel Wright, and subsequently removed to Ashburnham.

1 | Amos Lawrence, son of Benjamin and Jane (Russell) Lawrence, was b. in Westboro' Aug. 7, 1748. He md. 1772, Sarah Wetherbee, b. in Boxborough Nov. 22, 1748.

In 1774 he settled in the northwest part of this town near the school-house in the seventh district. He was a member of Capt. Gates' company in 1775, and subsequently from year to year he was chosen to office in the conduct of town affairs. He was an intelligent man. About 1800 he removed to Fitchburg. His wife d. April 5, 1818; he md. (2d) —— White; he d. June 9, 1840; she d. in this town at the home of her daughter.

2 I. *Amos*, b. 1773; md. March 1, 1807, Sally Fletcher, b. in Westford 1773, dau. of Joshua and Elizabeth (Raymond) Fletcher, and a sister of Joshua Fletcher of this town. He resided in Fitchburg. Their children were Amos, Sophronia, Paul R. and Freeborn.

3 II. *Nabby*, b. May 14, 1774; md. May 8, 1794, Ephraim Hale of Stow. She was the mother of nine children; she d. June 29, 1841.

4 III. *Moses*, b. Sept. 24, 1775.+

5 IV. *Sarah*, b. May 8, 1777; md. April 18, 1797, Samuel Gates of Stow; six children; she d. Feb. 5, 1808.

6 V. *Anna*, b. Feb. 19, 1779; md. May 5, 1803, Dr. Israel Hale of Stow; four children; she d. Dec. 26, 1852.

7 VI. *Alice*, b. Aug. 12, 1781; md. March 7, 1804, Nehemiah Andrews of Fitchburg; five children; she d. Nov. 26, 1812.

8 VII. *Ezra*, b. March 16, 1783.+

9 VIII. *Joel*, b. Aug. 9, 1785; md. Sarah Miles; lived in Ashburnham and in Fitchburg; d. in Fitchburg about 1860.

10 IX. *Martha*, b. Jan. 31, 1788; md. William Merriam, *q. v.*

11 X. *Betsey*, b. Jan. 1, 1790; md. Jan. 6, 1814, Nehemiah Andrews, who md. her sister Alice. Eleven children; she d. Feb. 8, 1855.

12 XI. *Uriah*, b. in Fitchburg 1822; md. March 1, 1850, Sarah Hadley, dau. of Gamaliel Hadley, *q. v.* They resided in Rindge, where she d. 1882. Eight children. He md. (2d) 1883, Betsey (Holden) Kendall, and removed to Sharon, N. H., where he now resides. Between the age of the father and this son there is a space of seventy-four years. It is probable that Uriah Lawrence is the only man living who can say that his father settled in Ashburnham previous to the Revolution.

13 XII. *Jane R.*, b. 1828; md. July 1, 1849, Charles Lawrence, son of Alethon Lawrence, *q. v.*

(4) Capt. Moses Lawrence was the commander of the Ashburnham Light Infantry from 1810 to 1813. He built one or more houses and mills at North Village and was active in public and business affairs. He md. Feb. 25, 1798, Sarah Wetherell of Norton; she d. July 28, 1834; he md. (2d) 1835, Mrs. Desire Longley of Shirley. Late in life he removed to Shirley where he d.

14 i. *Alona*, b. July 23, 1799; d. Sept. 26, 1800.
15 ii. *Alona*, b. Jan. 26, 1801; md. Walter Russell, *q. v.*
16 iii. *Ruel*, b. Nov. 19, 1803; md. Jan. 29, 1827, Thankful Laws of Westminster. The Commonwealth had a controversy with him about a business affair; he responded not guilty; the court thought otherwise, and he d. in the State prison at Charlestown Sept. 19, 1849; his widow d. Oct. 26, 1849.

17 1. Harriet, b. Nov. 14, 1827; md. George R. Fergurson; removed to Boston.
18 2. Charles Harvey, b. Nov. 7, 1830; resides in Illinois.
19 3. Emily A., b. July 19, 1834; md. Horace Snow.
20 4. Alden B., b. March 15, 1842.
21 5. Adaline M., b. Dec. 7, 1845.

22 iv. *Waity*, b. Jan. 22, 1806; md. Francis Kibling, *q. v.*
23 v. *Sabrina*, b. May 27, 1808; md. Silas Willard, *q. v.*
24 vi. *Luana*, b. July 26, 1810; md. George Wood, son of Jonathan Wood, *q. v.*
25 vii. *Malvina*, b. July 5, 1812; d. Jan. 13, 1815.
26 viii. *Malvina*, b. July 15, 1816; md. Leonard Foster, *q. v.*
27 ix. *Elsie P.*, b. Dec. 23, 1818; d. Feb. 23, 1826.

(8) Ezra Lawrence md. June 30, 1808, Rebecca Ward, dau. of Caleb Ward, *q. v.* He resided in this town until about 1835, when he removed to Verona, N. Y., where he d. Oct. 16, 1849.

28 i. *Lowell*, b. June 21, 1809.
29 ii. *Windsor*, b. April 9, 1811.
30 iii. *Alma*, b. May 16, 1813; d. Dec. 12, 1823.
31 iv. *Lorene*, b. Feb. 1, 1816.
32 v. *Lavinia*, b. Oct. 21, 1818.
33 vi. *Achsah*, b. Oct. 14, 1820.
34 vii. *Sophia*, b. Oct. 11, 1822.

35 VIII. *Harriet*, b. Sept. 27, 1824.
36 IX. *Joseph E.*, b. April 26, 1827.
37 X. *Alfred B.*, b. Nov. 18, 1829.
38 XI. *Gilbert*, b. Dec. 27, 1831.
39 XII. *Marietta*, b. Dec. 30, 1834.

40 JONATHAN LAWRENCE, a brother of Amos (No. 1), md. Jan. 14, 1779, Jane Kibling, dau. of John Kibling the emigrant. They lived in this town a short time but removed previous to 1787.

41 I. *Benjamin*, bap. Feb. 17, 1782.

42 DEA. WILLIAM J. LAWRENCE, son of Jonathan and Elizabeth (Johnson) Lawrence, was b. in Woburn Jan. 1, 1773. In his infancy the family removed to Ashby where he passed the years of childhood and youth. He was a tanner and it is possible he followed his trade in Lexington as he came from there to this town in 1797, and at the time of his removal he bought of Willard Lane a tan-yard that was located near the residence of George C. Foster, Esq. He built the house now occupied by his dau. Mrs. White, and joined many acres to his estate. He was an honest, conscientious man, and steadfast in his adherence to his convictions. He was a deacon of the Congregational church twenty-five years and was chosen to several positions in town affairs. He md. 1798, Elizabeth Griffin of Bedford. He d. suddenly July 8, 1844; his widow d. Feb. 18, 1862.

43 I. *Betsey*, b. Jan. 15, 1801; md. Josiah White, *q. v.*
44 II. *Nancy*, b. Dec. 19, 1802; md. Samuel Barrett, *q. v.*
45 III. *Zoa*, b. April 21, 1804; md. Ivers White, *q. v.*

46 ALETHON LAWRENCE, son of Charles and Naomi Lawrence, was b. in Ashby Oct. 15, 1771. In Ashby his name appears on the records as Alethon, but when he removed to Ashburnham the town officials wrote the name Elnathan. He md. 1797, Mary Tenney, dau. of Cheney Tenney of Littleton. He was a farmer and resided in Ashby until 1813, when he removed to this town. The farm is partly in this town and partly in Ashby. He d. in this town June 6, 1842; his widow d. 1861.

47 I. *Polly*, b. Feb. 15, 1798; d. March 30, 1800.
48 II. *Sarah*, b. April 18, 1800; md. Aug. 26, 1832,

Edward Smith; resided on North Turnpike.

49 1. Leonard, b. Aug. 10, 1835; removed to Westminster; md. Mary Mansfield.

50 III. *Mary*, b. May 3, 1801; md. Nathan Hunt.
51 IV. *Elizabeth*, b. May 10, 1804; md. Amos Derby.
52 V. *Leonard*, b. Feb. 17, 1806; d. July 29, 1806.
53 VI. *Zoa*, b. June 17, 1808; d. June 25, 1808.
54 VII. *Nancy*, b. June 17, 1809; md. 1834, Zimri Whitney, b. July 2, 1807, son of Isaac and Susannah Whitney of Ashby. They resided in Ashby, where he d., *felo de se*, and she d. 1879.
55 VIII. *Charles*, b. March 29, 1812.+
56 IX. *Leonard*, b. 1814.+

(55) CHARLES LAWRENCE is a farmer residing on the North Turnpike. He md. Susan Lovejoy, b. Jan. 11, 1812, dau. of Benjamin and Ruth (Wood) Lovejoy of Rindge; she d. Dec., 1848; md. (2d) July 1, 1849, Jane R. Lawrence, dau. of Amos Lawrence, *q. v.* She d. Sept. 5, 1876; md. (3d) Sept., 1881, Martha (Hadley) Lawrence, widow of his brother Leonard. One child.

57 I. *Susan Jane*, b. June 19, 1851; md. Charles E. Mansfield, son of Jonathan M. Mansfield; she d. May, 1875.

(56) LEONARD LAWRENCE was a farmer; he lived on the farm formerly of his father in the northeast part of the town. He md. May 4, 1837, Martha C. Hadley, dau. of Gamaliel Hadley, *q. v.* He d. suddenly June 14, 1870; his widow md. (2d) his brother, Charles Lawrence.

58 I. *Mary*, b. March 7, 1838; md. John Kendall of Ashby.
59 II. *Walter*, b. Aug. 23, 1840; md. 1868, Emeline A. Whitney, dau. of Dwell Whitney, *q. v.*
60 III. *Elnathan*, b. Feb. 4, 1842; unmd; resides in Ashby.
61 IV. *Martha Jane*, b. March 19, 1844; md. 1865, Lewis W. Whitney, son of Dwell Whitney, *q. v.*
62 V. *Charles*, b. June 23, 1846; md. 1881, H. Evelyn Foster; resides in Ashby.
63 VI. *Sarah A.*, b. Sept. 2, 1848; md. 1878, John Foster; reside in Colorado.
64 VII. *Hattie E.*, b. Sept. 3, 1852; md. Dec. 7, 1872, George W. Blanchard of Ashby.

65 VIII. *Leonard*, b. Feb. 8, 1855; unmd; resides in Colorado.
66 IX. *Amanda*, b. Dec. 20, 1859; md. Nov. 25, 1880, Alfred Brewer; resides in Ashburnham.
67 X. *Alice N.*, b. May 7, 1867; md. Dec. 24, 1885, James Doloff; resides in Malden.

68 JOHN LAWRENCE, son of Reuben and Lois (Tenney) Lawrence, and a grandson of Charles and (Naomi) Lawrence, was b. in Ashby March 31, 1796. He md. 1834, Phebe W. Broughton, dau. of William Broughton.

69 I. *Esther Sirena*, b. July 21, 1834; md. March 14, 1854, Robert J. Elliot. He d. ——.

70 1. L. Agnes, b. May 8, 1865; md. Dec. 24, 1885, Robert Samson.
71 2. Etta M., b. June 18, 1867; md. Winslow O. Fletcher, *q. v.*

72 II. *John Chauncey*, b. May 28, 1836; md. March 17, 1866, Abbie A. Blaney, dau. of Benjamin Blaney. She d. Aug. 18, 1876; md. (2d) April 14, 1880, Jane (Pierce) Lane, widow of Milton Lane, *q. v.* Resides at Lane Village.
73 III. *George W.*, b. June 3, 1838; md. Feb. 15, 1864, Ellen E. Reed. He is a veteran 21st Regiment.
74 IV. *Reuben H.*, b. Sept. 19, 1845; md. Fanny Goodale. He was killed in braking cars, Dec. 9, 1877.
75 V. *William A.*, b. July 8, 1856; md. Jan. 31, 1877, Mary E. Bixby, dau. of Aaron B. Bixby.

76 CAPT. JEREMIAH LAWRENCE, son of Peter Lawrence, was b. in Ashby Jan. 29, 1772. He md. Rachel Wright, b. June 26, 1773, dau. of Henry and Sarah (Spalding) Wright of Westford and Ashby. About 1821 he removed to this town. He d. Feb. 20, 1854; his wife d. March 22, 1851. Children b. in Ashby.

77 I. *Persis*, b. Oct. 30, 1792.
78 II. *Jeremiah*, b. Feb. 4, 1796.+
79 III. *Tila O.*, b. Sept. 30, 1799.
80 IV. *Jonas*, b. Aug. 8, 1806.+
81 V. *Susan Stearns*, b. Jan. 23, 1812; md. Asahel Wheeler, *q. v.*

(78) JEREMIAH LAWRENCE, JR., md. Feb. 20, 1821, Mary Tuttle of Ashby, b. Dec. 21, 1792; removed to this town

about the date of his marriage. He d. July 3, 1872; she d. Dec. 7, 1883.

82 I. *William T.*, b. Sept. 22, 1825; md. Nov. 1, 1846, Nancy W. Blanchard of New Ipswich. He resides in Peterborough, N. H.

83 1. Mary A., b. May 4, 1852; d. Sept. 2, 1852.
84 2. Marah A., b. Oct. 9, 1853; d. Nov. 15, 1853.
85 3. Lillie A., b. Feb. 26, 1855.
86 4. Emma F., b. March 3, 1857.

87 II. *Charles H.*, b. Sept. 2, 1827; removed to Boston, where he md. 1848, Sarah E. Riblet of Charlestown. He d. March 23, 1878; his widow d. April 10, 1879.

88 III. *Marah S.*, b. Jan. 19, 1829; d. April 20, 1850.

(80) JONAS LAWRENCE, a brother of Jeremiah, Jr., md. June 6, 1833, Sarah White, dau. of Dea. Elisha White, *q. v.*; she d. June 22, 1845; he md. (2d) 1852, Eliza (Russell) Houghton, dau. of David Russell, *q. v.* She d. April, 1885.

89 I. *Charles A.*, b. ——.
90 II. *Ivers W.*, b. ——; md. 1867, Sarah A. Luce.

1 JOHN LEATHERS was b. in Charlestown Nov. 16, 1799. In his youth he went to Albany, N. Y., and came to this town in 1823. He md. Sept. 26, 1826, Alma G. Marble, dau. of Oliver Marble, *q. v.* He was a farmer near Rice pond. The house was burned several years ago. He removed to Fitchburg late in life, and d. there Sept. 14, 1876; his widow d. at Bath, Me., June 19, 1884.

2 I. *Alma Eliza*, b. July 21, 1827; md. Albion C. Mallot; reside in Bath, Me.
3 II. *John Cobleigh*, b. May 9, 1829; resides in Ohio; is md.
4 III. *Emma S.*, b. Nov. 30, 1830; md. George Moors; she d. at Wilton Junction, Iowa, July 23, 1886.
5 IV. *Mary Elizabeth*, b. July 13, 1832; unmd.; resides in Fitchburg.
6 V. *Dorothy Marble*, b. March 11, 1834; md. Sept. 5, 1853, Joshua S. Wheeler, son of Lewis and Mary (Stowell) Wheeler, b. in Fitchburg Oct. 16, 1829. He is a manufacturer and dealer in machinists' tools in Worcester where he resides.

7 VI. *Lewis Edwin*, b. Feb. 8, 1836; d. unmd. in Sandusky, Ohio, Nov. 22, 1855.

8 VII. *Joel Francis*, b. Oct. 9, 1837; md. Sarah Smith; resides in Winn, Me.

9 VIII. *George Elliot*, b. July 13, 1840; resides in Worcester; md. Marelia Ames.

10 IX. *Ivers Warren*, b. Nov. 20, 1841; d. May 11, 1844.

11 X. *Hosea Marshall*, b. Dec. 16, 1843; d. May 11, 1844.

These two children died about the same hour.

12 XI. *Charles F.*, b. Aug. 10, 1846; d. at Fitchburg April 25, 1877; left a family.

13 XII. *William C.*, b. Aug. 11, 1847; md. Laura Marshall; resides in Fitchburg.

LITCH.

Among the children of one of the Scotch-Irish emigrants who settled in Londonderry, N. H., was Thomas Litch who was b. about 1720. If the tradition is sustained that he was four years of age when his parents came to America it is probable that he was b. quite as early as the year named. The name in the early records is written Leatch. He md. Jane Kennedy, and d. in Winchendon 1802. He left two sons, John and Samuel. John Litch md. Martha Stuart and settled in Lunenburg, and d. 1815. Among his four sons was Thomas Litch, b. 1777; md. Hannah Kimball and resided in Fitchburg, where he d. Oct. 23, 1820.

Samuel Litch, the other son of Thomas and Jane (Kennedy) Litch, resided in Lunenburg until 1781, when he removed to Winchendon. At once he became a prominent citizen. August 11, 1786, he was a delegate to the Leicester covention, but subsequently he became involved in the Shays' revolt. It has been asserted that he left the State, but it is claimed with greater confidence that he d., 1787, from injuries received from a falling limb while felling trees. Samuel Litch, Jr., b. July 9, 1779, was the famous school-teacher of Winchendon and Jaffrey, N. H.

1 JOEL H. LITCH, b. in Fitchburg April 14, 1807, son of Thomas and Hannah (Kimball) Litch, md. Nov. 17, 1831, Lucy Maynard, dau. of Stephen Maynard, *q. v.* He resided in Worcester, where he was engaged in the manufacture and sale of doors, sashes and blinds until 1850 when he purchased the Maynard farm and removed to this town. As a farmer he maintains a foremost rank, and as a citizen he is held in high esteem. He has been repeatedly elected to positions in town affairs, and in 1852 he represented the town in the Legislature.

2 I. *Ellen E.*, b. Sept. 28, 1832; d. unmd. Aug. 22, 1883.

3 II. *Charles T.*, b. Dec. 12, 1834; md. A. Theresa Rockwood, dau. of George Rockwood, *q. v.* He is a farmer on the homestead with his father. They are engaged extensively in the sale of milk.

4 III. *John Francis*, b. July 6, 1837; md. June 2, 1867, Emily E. Merriam, dau. of Benjamin Merriam, *q. v.* He is foreman and lumber agent with Boston Chair Manufacturing Company.

5 1. Carrie E., b. April 26, 1868.
6 2. Herbert F., b. Oct. 3, 1870.
7 3. Ernest W., b. April 9, 1872.
8 4. Clesson, b. May 9, 1874.

9 IV. *Martha S.*, b. Feb. 20, 1840; d. April 23, 1860.
10 V. *George H.*, b. June 6, 1843; md. Lucy A. Pierce of Templeton. He resides in Templeton. His wife d. ——, leaving two children.

1 JOHN LOCKE was a German emigrant who came to this town in 1758. It appears that he had no interest in the purchase of the Lexington grant. He settled near the site of the Cushing Academy. Invariably he wrote the name Overlock, in the early records it is Oberlock, and in this form the name is written when reference was had to the father, but his children were known by the name of Locke, and his descendants in the male line are probably bearing the name of Locke and perplexing the genealogist at the present time. John Oberlock was an original member of the church, and as a citizen he bore a full share of public burdens and responsibility. The name of his wife was Mary. The children of whom any knowledge has been secured, except Jacob, were born before the family arrived in this town. He d. Jan. 2, 1783. His widow probably d. in Winchendon, where Capt. Daniel Putnam, who had the farm and was responsible for her support, resided a few years.

2 I. *John Locke*, md. 1774, Molly Bigelow. The intention of marriage is recorded Jan. 9, 1774. She d. May 6, 1775; he md. (2d) Feb. 27, 1777, Phebe Howe. He d. March 7, 1778.
3 II. *Philip*, owned a saw-mill on the stream in the South Village, which he sold in 1778 to Daniel Gibbs. He md. Dec. 17, 1777, Olive Gates. An infant of Philip Locke d. May 15, 1779. He probably removed from town.
4 III. *Elizabeth*, md. March 18, 1777, Capt. Daniel Putnam, *q. v.*
5 IV. *Jacob*, was a soldier in the Revolution; he d. in the service. Mr. Cushing records his death in November, 1777, "aged about 18 years."

6 WILLIAM LOCKE, son of William and Eleanor (Haynes) Locke of New Ipswich, was b. July 29, 1798. The lineage of this family is found in the "Book of the Lockes." He md. March 29, 1829, Jane W. Wilder. They removed to this town soon after their marriage. He d., from injuries received from a fall from a pear tree, Sept. 7, 1837. His widow md. Nov. 17, 1846, Harrison Wyman of Westminster.

7 JOSIAH LOCKE, a brother of William (6), was b. Oct. 18, 1804; he md. Oct. 18, 1827, Elizabeth W. Willard, dau. of John Willard, *q. v.* They resided in this town until 1840; subsequently in Wakefield.

8 I. *Charles E.*, b. July 14, 1828; md. May 3, 1849, Lucy M. Wood, dau. of Nathan Wood, *q. v.*; resided in Fitchburg, where he d. May 23, 1874.

9 II. *John W.*, b. April 10, 1832; resides in Wakefield; was postmaster there twelve years. He md. Charlotte A. Tufts, who d. 1867; md. (2d) Susan G. Berry who d. March 2, 1881; md. (3d) C. Della Kilgore.

10 III. *Mary Elizabeth*, b. Oct. 4, 1833; md. Charles Bennett.

11 WILLIAM LOCKE, son of William and Rebecca (Barrett) Locke of Fitzwilliam, N. H., b. Feb. 7, 1778, md. Feb. 7, 1804, Polly Walker, and resided in this town about three years ending 1837, when they removed to Fitzwilliam, N. H.

12 WILLIAM D. LOCKE, son of William (11), b. Oct. 5, 1807, md. Dec. 11, 1833, Miranda Adams, dau. of Dea. Isaac Adams of New Ipswich; was here the same time as his father.

LOWE.

Over the twelve ships bearing emigrants to America in 1630, Capt. John Lowe, of the ship Ambrose, was Admiral. The fleet sailed in April, and having safely arrived at Salem, a day of public thanksgiving was observed in all the adjacent plantations July 8, 1630. Dea. Thomas Lowe, son of Capt. John, was b. in Ipswich 1632. He md. Martha Boreman, dau. of Thomas Boreman, and was a leading spirit in the settlement. He d. April 12, 1712, aged 80, leaving seven children; of these the second son was Jonathan Lowe, who md. —— Thompson. Of their children, Jonathan, Jr., was b. Sept. 14, 1708; md. Nov. 18, 1731, Sarah Perkins. About 1760 they removed to Lunenburg. The fourteenth of their sixteen children was Dr. Abraham Lowe of Ashburnham. He was b. in Chebacco parish, Ipswich, Feb. 11, 1755.

1 Dr. Abraham Lowe removed to Ashburnham in 1785 or 1786. He boarded until his marriage with Capt. Timothy Willard at the David Russell place. He lived a few years at corner of Main and Cushing streets, and about 1792 he purchased the estate still known as the Dr. Lowe place, and there resided until his death. *Vide* pages 178 and 466. He md. Oct. 30, 1788, Charlotte Hale, b. Dec. 30, 1766, eldest dau. of Col. Nathan and Abigail (Grout) Hale of Rindge. He d. Oct. 23, 1834; his widow d. May 5, 1841.

Col. Nathan Hale, the father of Mrs. Lowe, was b. in Rowley or in Hampstead, N. H., Sept. 23, 1743. He was a merchant and farmer in Rindge, and an extensive land owner in that town. He was a major in Col. Reed's regiment in 1775, and lieut.-colonel of the 2nd New Hampshire Battalion 1777. He d. a prisoner within the British lines Sept. 23, 1780. He was a descendant of the fifth generation of Thomas Hale, b. in Hertfordshire, England, May 15, 1606, and settled in Newbury previous to 1635. The generations are Thomas, Thomas, Capt. Thomas, all of Newbury, Moses of Newbury, Hampstead, N. H., and Rindge, and Col. Nathan of Rindge. Of Dr. Abraham and Charlotte (Hale) Lowe there were eight children.

2 i. *Nathan Hale*, b. July 21, 1789; d. Dec. 13, 1789.
3 ii. *Abigail*, b. Jan. 24, 1791; md. Dr. William H. Cutler, *q. v.*
4 iii. *Charlotte*, b. May 29, 1793; md. June 4, 1840, David Goodwin, Esq., of Chelsea, Vt. After his decease she resided in this town, where she d. March 12, 1877.
5 iv. *Abraham Thompson*, b. Aug. 15, 1796.+
6 v. *Thomas Hale*, b. Nov. 27, 1799; d. Jan. 13, 1800.
7 vi. *Mary Hale*, b. May 9, 1801; md. Samuel Woods, *q. v.*
8 vii. *George Henry*, b. May 12, 1803.+
9 viii. *Benoni*, b. Sept. 19, 1807; d. Feb. 22, 1808.

(5) Dr. Abraham T. Lowe is the oldest native of this town known to be living. For a brief outline of a prolonged and useful career the reader is referred to page 466. He md. Oct. 20, 1822, Emma B. Gould of Ashby, who d. Aug. 9, 1833; he md. (2d) Nov. 6, 1836, Susan Burr of Ashby, who d. May 16, 1843; he md. (3d) April 5, 1844, Eliza B. Burr, who d. Nov. 5, 1860; he md. (4th) April 30, 1862, Cordelia Burditt. Two children of first wife died in infancy.

10 i. *Elizabeth*, b. Nov. 5, 1825; d. March 15, 1842.
11 ii. *Lewis G.*, b. Aug. 18, 1828. He is a physician in Boston.
12 iii. *Abraham Thompson*, b. Feb. 20, 1856; a graduate of Dartmouth Medical School 1880.

(8) GEORGE H. LOWE, occupying the Jewett store, was a merchant in this town several years, and associated with others, he was engaged a short time in the manufacture of chairs. He was a man of exemplary character, commanding at all time the respect and confidence of the community. He md. Feb. 18, 1830, Catherine M. Brigham, b. in Westboro' Jan. 21, 1801, dau. of Hon. Elijah and Sarah (Ward) Brigham and a granddau. of Gen. Artemas Ward. In 1842 he removed to North Brookfield. He d. at Dewitt, Iowa, Dec. 21, 1866.

13 i. *Emma Catherine*, bap. Aug. 30, 1835.
14 ii. *George Abraham*, bap. Dec. 29, 1836.
15 iii. *Sarah Brigham*, bap. June, 1840.

1 FRANCIS M. LUND, b. in Hollis, N. H., March 8, 1845, son of Warner and Mary F. (Lovejoy) Lund, md. Feb. 10, 1867, Elizabeth J. Wheeler of Hollis, N. H. He resides on Chapel street in Central Village.

2 i. *Frank W.*, b. April 17, 1869.
3 ii. *Bertha M.*, b. July 22, 1873.
4 iii. *Daisie B.*, b. Dec. 1, 1877.

1 SOLOMON MANNING was b. in Billerica May 15, 1753. He was a son of Lieut. William and Elizabeth (Danforth) Manning, grandson of Ensign William and Elizabeth (French) Manning and great-grandson of Samuel and Elizabeth (Stearns) Manning, all of Billerica. Solomon Manning md. May 20, 1777, Alice Wilson, b. Oct. 17, 1749, dau. of John and Alice (Totman) Wilson; she d. April 26, 1787; he md. (2d) Jan. 6, 1789, Olive French of Hollis, N. H. With two children they removed to this town in 1792 and resided near the present residence of Cyrus A. Jefts. He d. Sept. 2, 1833; she d. June 27, 1841.

2 i. *Solomon*, b. Dec. 26, 1789.+
3 ii. *Olive*, b. March 16, 1792; d. Nov. 6, 1799.
4 iii. *Andrew Bailey*, b. March 13, 1794; removed from town about 1830; unmd. at that time; d. May 6, 1851.

5 iv. *Alice Wilson*, b. Nov. 5, 1795; cared for her aged parents, and was often a cheerful nurse in the neighborhood; she lives unmd. in Fitchburg.

6 v. *Samuel*, b. June 26, 1797.

7 vi. *Elizabeth*, b. May 5, 1799; md. Peter Carter of Fitchburg. Several children. She d. March 30, 1865.

(2) Solomon Manning, Jr., md. Lucy Webber of Chelmsford, and resided in Ashburnham and in Ashby. He d. Dec. 13, 1825.

8 i. *Lucy Maria*, b. 1814, *non comp.*; d. Dec. 20, 1872.

9 ii. *Ivers B.*, b. April 6, 1816; md. April 6, 1843, Phebe J. Eaton, b. Oct. 1, 1822, dau. of Samuel Eaton of Reading and Lynn. He was a chair maker; d. Aug. 15, 1884; his widow resides in Gardner.

10 1. Helen Elizabeth, b. Feb. 2, 1844; md. Merrick W. Wallace, son of Dr. Merrick Wallace, *q. v.*

11 2. Josie Augusta, b. May 15, 1847; d. Sept. 28, 1848.

12 3. Frank Abbott, b. Sept. 9, 1850; d. Feb. 22, 1876.

13 4. Caroline Alice, b. Nov. 2, 1862; d. Dec. 9, 1881.

14 iii. *Elzina E.*, b. ——; md. Alvan F. Ward, son of Jacob Ward, *q. v.*

15 iv. *Laurette*, b. ——.

16 v. *Elson*, b. ——; md. Rebecca Tufts; d. in Fitchburg about 1878.

MARBLE.

The name of Marble has been continued in this town about one hundred years. The first of the name in this town were Jabez and Oliver Marble, who came from Stow 1789, and from them are descended the numerous families of Marble in this town. It is a tradition of the family that the father of Jabez and Oliver Marble was impressed into the English army, and while his regiment was employed in the conquest of Canada, without a full discharge, he left a service which had been instituted without his consent, and soon after settled in Stow. The sequel of the tradition is confirmed by the records of Stow. Asa Marble is found a resident of Stow, and there Jabez and Oliver Marble, twin sons of Asa and Hannah (Wheeler) Marble, were b. Sept. 15, 1755. While residents of Stow, they were in the Revolutionary service. *Vide* Chap. VI. A cannon-ball brought home by Jabez Marble is now in the possession of his great-grandson, Warren E. Marble.

1 JABEZ MARBLE, b. in Stow Sept. 15, 1755, md. Nov. 29, 1780, Mary Salter, dau. of Samuel Salter, *q. v.*, and settled in Stow where he lived until 1789, when he removed to this town. He lived on the farm formerly occupied by Samuel Salter, and now by Warren Marble. He d. Dec. 23, 1843; she d. Dec. 22, 1845.

2 I. *Hannah*, b. ——; d. Sept. 21, 1792.
3 II. *Eunice*, b. April 28, 1783; md. George Wilker, Jr, *q. v.*
4 III. *Jabez*, b. April 29, 1785.+
5 IV. *Stephen*, b. Nov. 8, 1787.+
6 V. *Phebe*, b. Feb. 1, 1790; md. John Carter of Fitchburg.
7 VI. *Lydia*, b. Feb. 8, 1792; md. John Russell of Townsend.
8 VII. *Lois* (twin), b. Feb. 8, 1792; md. April 21, 1812, Joseph Smith of Leominster.
9 VIII. *Joel*, b. Feb. 1, 1794.+
10 IX. *Grata*, b. May 4, 1797; md. April 7, 1822, Joseph Wheeler; resided in Acton.
11 X. *Asenath*, b. Oct. 25, 1801; md. 1821, David Flint, b. March 27, 1793, son of Edmund and Abigail (Damon) Flint of Ashby. He d. Sept. 5, 1870; she d. Aug. 22, 1867.

(4) JABEZ MARBLE, JR., md. 1815, Anna Dutton, b. Nov. 9, 1788, dau. of Samuel and Rhoda Dutton of Ashby. He was a farmer. He d. in this town July 8, 1826.

12 I. *Son*, b. ——; d. young.

(5) STEPHEN MARBLE md. Nov. 12, 1816, Polly Flint, b. Oct. 27, 1790, dau. of Edmund and Abigail (Damon) Flint of Ashby. He was a farmer on Russell hill; removed to Ashby 1850, where he d. Aug. 19, 1855; she d. March 2, 1855.

13 I. *Albert Proctor*, b. Aug. 9, 1817; d. unmd.
14 II. *Elmira*, b. June 26, 1820; md. Joseph Cushing, *q. v.*
15 III. *Edmund Newton*, b. Dec. 4, 1822; md. April 23, 1848, Dolly Billings, dau. of Joshua Billings, Jr., *q. v.* He d. Aug. 19, 1885; she resides in Fitchburg.
16 IV. *Stephen Jackson*, b. Nov. 3, 1828; md. 1850, Lydia A. Maynard, dau. of Horace Maynard, *q. v.* She d. ——. He resides in Fitchburg.

(9) JOEL MARBLE md. Nov. 19, 1818, Susan Sawin, dau. of Asa Sawin, *q. v.*; she d. June 22, 1823; he md. (2d) 1823, Mary Winship of Westminster. He was a farmer and at different times occupied the farms now of Warren Marble and of Hosea Green. He d. March 10, 1869; his wife d. Oct. 12, 1859.

17 I. *Luke*, b. April 30, 1820.+
18 II. *Newell*, b. Jan. 29, 1822.+
19 III. *Infant*, b. and d. June, 1823.
20 IV. *Susan*, b. Sept. 19, 1824; d. Dec. 20, 1838.
21 V. *Warren*, b. Aug. 1, 1826.+

(17) LUKE MARBLE md. April 24, 1845, Abigail Moore, dau. of Pitt Moore, *q. v.*, and now resides in Central Village. Until recently he lived in the northeast part of the town, where he was successfully engaged in farming and in the manufacture of lumber. He has been assessor and elected to other office in town affairs.

22 I. *Jonas P.*, b. April 3, 1846; d. Sept. 14, 1848.
23 II. *Joel P.*, b. June 11, 1848. He is a merchant in the firm of Marble and Gilson. He md. June 11, 1871, Caroline Holmes.
24 III. *Alden B.*, b. Aug. 11, 1851; md. Feb. 1, 1873, Flora A. Jaquith. He is a successful farmer on the old Kibling farm, frequently called the Caldwell farm.
25 IV. *Warren E.*, b. Oct. 7, 1855; md June 15, 1882, Nellie M. Fuller. He is a farmer and proprietor of the Marble Mills.
26 V. *Mary E.*, b. April 24, 1857; md. Feb. 5, 1881, Frank W. Davis of Ashby. He resides in Ashburnham.

(18) NEWELL MARBLE md. April 29, 1845, Emma J. Wilker, dau. of Jacob Wilker, *q. v.* He was a farmer and a morocco finisher and lived near the school-house in the third district. He d. Aug. 12, 1885.

27 I. *George Francis*, b. July 16, 1846; md. Oct. 1, 1871, Hannah B. Boston of Barrington, N. H.; resides at Great Falls, N. H.
28 II. *Franklin Augustus*, b. March 17, 1848; d. June 28, 1848.
29 III. *Ella Augusta*, b. Feb. 10, 1850; d. Aug. 28, 1852.
30 IV. *Celia Viola*, b. Aug. 25, 1853; md. Feb. 7, 1877, Elwyn D. Gibson, son of Jerome S. Gibson, *q. v.*

31 v. *Charles Sumner*, b. Nov. 1, 1855; md. Jan. 27, 1877, Lillian A. Gibson, dau. of Jerome S. Gibson, *q. v.*
32 vi. *Lyra Madora*, b. Aug. 4, 1858; d. March 11, 1865.
33 vii. *Rosetta Emogene*, b. March 3, 1862.
34 viii. *Fernando Ulysses*, b. Nov. 7, 1865; d. June 4, 1876.
35 ix. *Lilla Malora*, b. Oct. 18, 1867.
36 x. *Melvin Newell*, b. Sept. 7, 1869; d. May 29, 1876.

(21) Warren Marble is a farmer on the homestead. He md. May 22, 1851, Mary L. Wilker, dau. of Jacob Wilker, *q. v.*

37 i. *Emma A.*, b. March 16, 1852; md. Sept. 4, 1870, Herbert W. Whitney, son of Otis Whitney, *q. v.*
38 ii. *Frank L.*, b. Aug. 1, 1854; md. April 30, 1876, Sarah A. Nichols, dau. of John Nichols, *q. v.*
39 iii. *Walter H.*, b. Sept. 13, 1858; a physician. *Vide* page 509.
40 iv. *Susie E.*, b. Dec. 1, 1861.
41 v. *Lizzie L.*, b. Jan. 7, 1865.
42 vi. *Berton H.*, b. July 11, 1867; d. Aug. 8, 1870.
43 vii. *Harlan B.*, b. Dec. 10, 1871; d. July 22, 1877.

44 Oliver Marble, twin brother of Jabez Marble, md. Deborah Bailey, and with five children removed to this town in 1789. He settled on the Emory Fairbanks farm now of Charles Kelton. He d. while visiting a son in Lyndeboro', N. H., July 29, 1827. His widow d. in this town Aug. 28, 1833, aged 70.

45 i. *Oliver*, b. Aug. 8, 1781.+
46 ii. *Rhoda*, b. Oct. 10, 1783; md. Nathan Taylor, *q. v.*
47 iii. *Deborah*, b. Aug. 6, 1785; md. Dec. 12, 1805, Asa Eaton, b. Nov. 29, 1785, son of Benjamin and Lydia Eaton of Ashby. They removed to Springfield, Vt.
48 iv. *Bailey*, b. Aug. 3, 178–; removed to western New York; md. Penelope Hall.
49 v. *Lois*, b. Sept. 20, 1791; md. John Hall, *q. v.*
50 vi. *Tamar*, b. July 2, 1789; d. Oct. 27, 1794.
51 vii. *Samuel*, b. July 8, 1793.+
52 viii. *Hannah*, b. Nov. 10, 1795; md. Joel Barrett, *q. v.*; md. (2d) Joseph Miller, *q. v.*
53 ix. *Abner*, b. Oct. 29, 1798; resided in Lyndeboro', N. H.

54 x. *Tamar*, b. June 23, 1803; md. Sept. 27, 1832, Benjamin C. Pillsbury; they reside in Ashby. Three or more children.

(45) Oliver Marble md. April 7, 1805, Dolly Green, dau. of Oliver Green, *q. v.* He resided in this town many years and subsequently in New Ipswich, where he d. in 1851; his widow d. Nov. 12, 1859.

55 i. *Alma G.*, b. March 29, 1806; md. John Leathers, *q. v.*

56 ii. *Betsey*, b. ——; d. March 16, 1808.

57 iii. *Lewis*, b. May 7, 1809; md. Dec. 11, 1842, Louisa Adams; he was a millwright; d. in this town Oct. 25, 1844.

58 1. Lewis, b. 1844.

59 iv. *Heman L.*, b. April 7, 1811; a carriage maker in Springfield, Vt.; md. Eliza Smalley.

60 v. *Asahel*, b. Feb. 1, 1814; md. Sept. 8, 1842, Betsey Walton, b. Aug. 10, 1814, dau. of Nathan Walton of Rindge; he was a mechanic; resided in New Ipswich, Rindge, and after 1850 in Ashburnham, where he d. Jan. 15, 1871.

61 1. Henry A., b. Aug. 29, 1843; enlisted in 53d Regiment; d. at New Orleans May 19, 1863.

62 2. Nathan E., b. Jan. 6, 1848; d. unmd. March 13, 1879.

63 3. William A., b. Sept. 18 1850; unmd.; resides in Ashburnham.

64 vi. *Dorothy H.*, b. Nov. 11, 1816; md. Elliot Moore, *q. v.*

65 vii. *Chester*, b. March 19, 1820; md. Sarah Smalley; resided at Chicago, Ill.

66 viii. *Lavinia*, b. April 4, 1823; unmd.; resides at Townsend.

(51) Samuel Marble resided in Lyndeboro' and in Milford, N. H., and later in Jaffrey, N. H., where he d. April 10, 1883. He md. May 21, 1816, Lucy Metcalf, dau. of Ezekiel S. Metcalf, *q v.*; md. (2d) Grata Carter, b. Dec. 26, 1804, dau. of Capt. Jonah Carter; md. (3d) Olive Greenwood. There were six children of Samuel and Lucy (Metcalf) Marble.

67 i. *Bailey*, b. ——; md. Nov. 10, 1839, Nancy Ellis, dau. of Jesse Ellis, *q. v.* They resided in this town and subsequently in Lowell, where she d. Jan. 31, 1854; he d. 1881.

68 1. Abbie Jane, b. Sept. 10, 1842.
69 2. Mary E., b. Sept. 13, 1846; d. Oct. 14, 1847.
70 3. Waldo B., b. April 3, 1851.

71 ii. *Howard*, b. July 23, 1820; md. April 6, 1847, Mary A. Crehore, dau. of Col. Timothy Crehore, *q. v.* They reside in Fitchburg.
72 iii. *Louisa*, b. ——.
73 iv. *Dustan*, b. ——; resides at Akron, Ohio.
74 v. *Calvin*, b. ——; resides at Cleveland, Ohio.
75 vi. *Tila*, b. ——; d. unmd. at Jaffrey, N. H., May 21, 1883.

MARTIN.

JOHN MARTIN, JR., and wife Elizabeth, removed from Ipswich to Lunenburg 1739. He d. about 1753, leaving a widow and ten children. Of these, four at least became associated with the people of Ashburnham: I. John, b. Oct. 12, 1740 (No. 1); II. Elizabeth, b. June 12, 1744, md. Job Colman, *q. v.*; III. Susannah, b. April 1, 1751, md. Benjamin Colman, *q. v.*; IV. Prudence, b. May 6, 1753, md. Amos Brooks, *q. v.*

1 JOHN MARTIN, son of John and Elizabeth Martin, b. Oct. 12, 1740, md. March 3, 1761, Betty Chaplin of Lunenburg. They united with the church in 1764, and withdrew to join the Baptists in 1778. He was identified with the settlement, but it is probable he lived over the line in Fitchburg. Five children were baptized after the ordination of Mr. Cushing. There is no record of baptisms during the ministry of Mr. Winchester.

2 i. *Barzillai*, bap. June 4, 1769.
3 ii. *Betty*, bap. Oct. 28, 1770.
4 iii. *Molly*, bap. Sept. 22, 1772.
5 iv. *Prudence*, bap. Sept. 11, 1774.
6 v. *Sarah*, bap. April 13, 1777.

1 LEWIS G. MATTHEWS was b. in Gardner May 13, 1817. He is a son of Joel and Sarah (Coolidge) Matthews and a grandson of John and Patience (Graves) Matthews. He was a merchant several years at the South Village, where he still resides, unmd.

2 HEZEKIAH MATTHEWS, a brother of Lewis G., was b. in Gardner Oct. 24, 1818; md. June 9, 1851, Sally Gates,

dau. of William Gates, *q. v.* For a number of years he was a manufacturer of chairs. He resides at South Village. Two children.

3 I. *Edward L.*, b. March 9, 1855; d. young.
4 II. *Josephine Isabel*, b. Nov. 4, 1860.

1 SUMNER MAY was b. in Sterling July 18, 1799. He was a son of Levi and Deborah (Wilder) May, grandson of Thomas and great-grandson of John May. He resided in Westminster until the autumn of 1827, when he removed to South Village. In 1856, in connection with his son Charles, he built the mill occupied by Bernard Duane & Co. He md. in Westminster, Nov. 15, 1821, Mira Eaton, b. Nov. 20, 1800, dau. of Nathan Eaton; she d. May 4, 1861; md. (2d) Feb. 13, 1862, Mrs. Philetta J. Johnson of Templeton. He d. Feb. 9, 1879.

2 I. *Augustine*, b. Oct. 14, 1822; md. 1846, Lorena Cram of Gardner.
3 II. *Augustus* (twin), b. Oct. 14, 1822; md. Elizabeth Reed of Groton; he resides at South Village.
4 III. *Levi Wilder*, b. Feb. 2, 1825; resides in Newfield, N. J.; he md. 1846, Mary Bosworth of Winchendon.
5 IV. *Charles Sumner*, b. April 10, 1827; unmd.; resides at South Village.
6 V. *Harriet Elvira*, b. Feb. 2, 1829; md. J. B. Barrell, *q. v.*
7 VI. *George Washington*, b. Oct. 14, 1831; md. Jane Hoyt; resides in Templeton.
8 VII. *Sarah E.*, b. Feb. 13, 1834; d. unmd. July 4, 1858.
9 VIII. *Orange Scott*, b. Nov. 22, 1836; unmd.; resides at South Village. He is a postmaster at Ashburnham Depot.
10 IX. *Achsah Irene*, b. July 5, 1839; md. April 14, 1861, Stephen C. Whitney of Westminster. He d. Feb. 20, 1863. *Vide* p. 455. She resides in Templeton.

MAYNARD.

JOHN MAYNARD, the emigrant ancestor of the Maynard family of New England, was a resident of Sudbury. His homestead was in the east part of the town and is now included within the town of Wayland. He was md. in England, and came to America in 1638. He shared in the division of Sudbury meadows 1639, and was one of the petitioners for the town of Marlboro', where he settled his son, John. He was a selectman and held other office in Sudbury. No record of his first marriage or the death of his wife appears;

he md. (2d) 1646, Mary Axtell, by whom he had three daughters. He d. Dec. 1, 1672; his widow was residing in Charlestown during the Indian troubles in 1675-6. John Maynard, son of John, was b. in England 1630, being eight years of age when his father came to America. He md. April 5, 1658, Mary Gates, dau. of Stephen Gates of Lancaster and Cambridge, and settled in Marlboro'. He was a selectman and was prominently associated with the affairs of the settlement. He md. (2d) Sarah Blanford Keyes, b. Jan. 27, 1642-3, widow of Elias Keyes and dau. of John and Dorothy (Wright) Blanford of Sudbury. Eight children by first and three by second marriage. He d. Dec. 22, 1711; his widow was living in 1722. David Maynard, son of John and Mary (Gates) Maynard, b. Dec. 21, 1669, md. Hannah Wait, dau. of Joseph and Ruhamah (Hager) Wait. He lived in the westerly part of Marlboro', now Westboro', and, following in the footsteps of his father and grandfather, he was much employed in town affairs and was frequently chosen to office. His wife d. March 16, 1724-5; he md. (2d) Feb. 6, 1732-3, Jemima Brigham. He d. Oct. 2, 1757. Of his eleven children, the descendants of Nathan and Jotham have resided in Ashburnham. Nathan Maynard, son of David, was b. in Westboro' Jan. 2, 1722; md. Jan. 1, 1750-1, Lucy Pratt, according to town records, but Lucy Whipple by tradition. He lived in Westboro', where he d. 1811; his wife d. May 18, 1773. Nehemiah Maynard, son of Nathan, b. May 27, 1754, settled in this town and is No. 1 in the following register.

Jotham Maynard, son of David and Hannah (Wait) Maynard, b. May 29, 1714, md. 1740, Abiah or Abigail Allen and resided in Westboro' and Bolton. The eldest of their ten children was Jotham Maynard, b. March 14, 1741; md. 1763, Dinah Powers. The sixth of their seven children was Dea. Antipas Maynard, b. in Bolton April 27, 1776; md. Aug. 14, 1797, Sally Rice, b. in Marlboro' Nov. 15, 1772, dau. of Eleazer and Elizabeth (Darling) Rice. They resided in Sullivan, N. H., and in Keene, N. H., where he d. March 15, 1833; she d. in Boston, Oct. 22, 1861. Of their children, Antipas Maynard, b. in Sullivan, N. H., Dec. 31, 1801, is No. 23 in the following register. Jotham Maynard, the grandfather of Antipas Maynard of Ashburnham, was a first cousin of Nehemiah Maynard of Ashburnham.

1 NEHEMIAH MAYNARD, the first of the name in Ashburnham, was b. in Westboro' May 27, 1754. He was a son of Nathan and Lucy (Pratt) Maynard. He md. Dorothy Maynard, b. in Shrewsbury Oct. 3, 1748, dau. of Reuben and Dorothy (Williams) Maynard. He settled in Ashburnham, on the farm now of Joel H. Litch, in 1775 or the spring of 1776. He d. May 29, 1828.

2 I. *Edward*, b. June 4, 1776.+

3 II. *Stephen*, b. March 11, 1778.+

4 III. *Sally*, b. April 21, 1780; md. Sept. 27, 1803, Stephen Lawrence, b. May 28, 1780, son of Charles and Naomi Lawrence of Ashby. She d. in Ashby July 24, 1810; he md. (2d) Mehitable Coe. There were two children by first marriage.

5 1. Amy, b. Sept. 6, 1805.

6 2. Charles, b. Jan. 20, 1808; d. Feb. 24, 1808.

7 IV. *Joseph*, b. Oct. 24, 1782; md. Dec. 13, 1804, Sarah Miller, b. Jan. 3, 1785, dau. of Isaac

Miller, *q. v.* They resided in this town a short time after marriage, and in New Hampshire and Vermont; he d. about 1815; his widow md. (2d) Dec. 25, 1817, Amos Stearns of Winchendon, whose first wife was Deborah Hunt, dau. of Dea. Sherebiah Hunt.

8 1. Joseph Bennett, b. April 13, 1805; d. July 15, 1835.
9 2. Laban, b. April 24, 1807; d. July 5, 1844.
10 3. Alonzo, b. March 11, 1809; d. Aug. 2, 1857.
11 4. Sally L., b. June 2, 1811.
12 5. Sarah A., b. April 16, 1813; md. Prentice Britton of Northfield.

13 v. *Timothy*, b. Oct. 9, 1785; he was taxed a few years in this town. He md. Sally Whiting of Lancaster and removed to Vermont.

14 vi. *Eliza*, b. Dec. 7, 1788; md. Stephen Gibson of Ashby. She d. March 18, 1861. Among their children is Eber Gibson of this town.

(2) Edward Maynard md. March 31, 1801, Persis Gates, dau. of Henry Gates, *q. v.* He was one of the Ashburnham Light Infantry when in service in the War of 1812. He d. Oct. 9, 1825; she d. in Fitchburg 1861.

15 i. *Levi*, b. March 19, 1806; was a blacksmith in this town, where he d. June 9, 1831. He md. March 5, 1829, Harriet French of Templeton.

16 ii. *Eliza*, b. Sept. 23, 1808; md. Alfred M. Wheeler of Fitchburg.

17 iii. *Sarah Lawrence*, b. Dec. 20, 1814; md. Josiah W. Boutelle.

(3) Stephen Maynard md. April 7, 1803, Miriam Ellis, dau. of Jesse Ellis, *q. v.* He was a farmer on the homestead. He d. Aug. 3, 1840; she d. March 14, 1853.

18 i. *Horace*, b. Nov. 4, 1804; md. 1828, Lydia Frothingham of Lancaster. He was a farmer; d. in this town Aug. 19, 1849. There were five children; the birth of twins, Lydia A. and Lucy Jane, b. March 19, 1831, is found in town records. The widow and children removed from town 1850.

19 ii. *Dorothy*, b. Jan. 3, 1806; md. John Brown, *q. v.*; md. (2d) Ohio Whitney, Sen., *q. v.*

20 III. *Lucy*, b. Jan. 23, 1808; md. Joel H. Litch, *q. v.*

21 DAVID MAYNARD, son of David, Jr., and a first cousin of Nehemiah Maynard, md. June 11, 1767, Sarah Savage. They were admitted to the church 1772, and in 1804 were dismissed to Chittenden, Vt. In the meantime seven children were baptized. It is probable that they lived over the line in Westminster.

22 LEVI MAYNARD md. 1812, Phebe (Wright) Winter, widow of John Winter, *q. v.* He removed to this town, leaving twelve children by a former marriage, and d. here Dec. 30, 1822. He was a brother of David Maynard. His widow md. (3d) Aug. 13, 1829, Benjamin Hawks; he d. about 1840; and last of all she d. Dec. 27, 1847.

23 ANTIPAS MAYNARD, son of Antipas and Sally (Rice) Maynard, was b. in Sullivan, N. H., Dec. 31, 1801. He md. Dec. 3, 1822, Almira Samson, dau. of Oliver Samson, *q. v.* He resided a few years in Keene, N. H., and in 1833 removed to this town, where they lived to an advanced age. Mr. Maynard was a man of generous sympathies and an ardent temperament. His faith and courage were never clouded. In business affairs he was exact and honest, and in his social relations he was kind and considerate. In every good work his sympathies were spontaneous and his adherence loyal and firm. He was prominent in the Methodist church, and for many years his efforts were unabated and his influence continually renewed. His worthy example lives in the memory of his associates and in the love of his children. He d. Nov. 18, 1882; his widow d. July 29, 1886.

24 I. *Nancy A.*, b. Oct. 27, 1823; md. Charles Winchester, son of Caleb Winchester, *q. v.*

25 II. *George A.*, b. March 3, 1826; md. Sept. 25, 1848, Sarah A. Merry, b. Aug. 5, 1827, dau. of Capt. John and Sarah A. Merry of Edgecomb; she d. Sept. 2, 1870; he md. (2d) Oct. 12, 1872, Mary E. McLean, b. Oct. 12, 1847, dau. of Anthony and Martha McLean of Shelburne. Eight children. He is a commission merchant: resides in Somerville.

26 III. *Lambert M.*, b. March 26, 1828; md. Feb. 17, 1853, Rose W. Knight, b. Oct. 31, 1828, dau. of Asa and Susan M. Knight; resides in Somerville.

27 iv. *Abbie S.*, b. Aug. 11, 1830; md. July 2, 1848, Stillman S. Knapp, b. March 6, 1825, son of Eliab and Rachel Knapp of Mason, N. H.; he resides in Gardner.

28 v. *Lizzie C.*, b. May 23, 1833; md. Nov. 22, 1854, Oliver D. Wilder, b. Aug. 25, 1830, son of Josiah P. and Amanda (Carter) Wilder of New Ipswich. He was in the service in the Civil War from this town. In 18— he removed to Lowell.

29 vi. *Infant*, b. and d. May 11, 1834.

30 vii. *Jane A.*, b. March 27, 1836; md. Nov. 22, 1854, Frank W. Cummings, b. Jan. 31, 1831, son of George Cummings of Plymouth, N. H.; resides in Shirley.

31 viii. *Elliot A.*, b. Oct. 14, 1839; md. April 6, 1864, Mary Jane Clark, who d. Jan. 14, 1874; md. (2d) May 4, 1873, Abbie B. Caswell. He is a carpenter in Ashburnham and postmaster at Central Village.

32 1. Irving E., b. Oct. 3, 1868.

33 2. Mamie Addie, b. May 2, 1871; d. April 20, 1873.

34 ix. *Susan H.*, b. March 8, 1841; md. Frank W. Wallace, *q. v.*

35 x. *Mary Isabel*, b. July 20, 1843; md. Nathan Eaton, *q. v.*

36 xi. *Charles Wesley*, b. Oct. 21, 1845. He was a railroad conductor; d. unmd. at Houston, Texas, Oct. 18, 1873.

37 xii. *Emma C.*, b. Nov. 4, 1848; md. Nathan Eaton, *q. v.*

1 Daniel McIntire was b. in Reading July 2, 1781. He was a son of Daniel and Jane (Hutchinson) McIntire of Reading and later of Fitchburg. He md. April 24, 1808, Sally Billings, dau. of Joshua Billings, *q. v.*, and settled on the north turnpike on the farm now occupied by his sons. He d. Aug. 27, 1860; his widow d. Aug. 18, 1871.

2 i. *Lewis*, b. Sept. 29, 1808; md. May 7, 1846, Syrena Whitney, b. Oct. 16, 1808, dau. of Benjamin and Nancy (Fuller) Whitney of Marlboro', N. H.; she d. July 9, 1851; he resides on the homestead.

II. *Daniel*, b. Nov. 24, 1810; unmd.; resides on the homestead.

III. *Allen*, b. June 3, 1818; unmd.; resides on the homestead.

IV. *Lavina*, b. April 4, 1823; d. young.

V. *Jane E.*, b. Feb. 11, 1825; md. Jan. 1, 1846, Luther L. Howard of Royalston; resides in Nashua, N. H.

JACOB MCINTIRE, a brother of Daniel McIntire (1), removed to Jefferson county, New York, and there md. Polly Russell. In 1840 he removed to this town. He was a farmer and a blacksmith and resided on the farm more recently of his son, Parley McIntire. He d. Aug. 9, 1863; she d. May 8, 1868.

I. *Adaline*, b.——; md. Feb. 17, 1840, Timothy Metcalf, b. Jan. 26, 1798, son of Timothy and Ruth (Chaplin) Metcalf of Rindge; she d. July 28, 1843.

1. Timothy, b. June 15, 1841.
2. Adaline, b. July 21, 1843; d. Aug. 16, 1843.

II. *Jane*, b.——; md. April 15, 1839, Joseph Davis, son of Ebenezer Bennett Davis, *q. v.*

III. *David Dean*, b. Oct. 13, 1826; md. June 19, 1850, Hannah S. Cowdrey, dau. of Jacob and Hannah (Blood) Cowdrey; she d. June 19, 1880; he md. (2d) Feb. 5, 1881, Eunice M. Buxton. He is a farmer in the north part of the town on the Benjamin farm.

1. Adaline Maria, b. Oct. 13, 1852; d. unmd. July 2, 1875.
2. Edward, b. Feb. 1, 1854; md. Aug. 21, 1875, Mary Emily Marcy, dau. of Washington Marcy of Holland. He resides in Rindge. Three children.
3. Amanda, b. 1856; d. Jan. 2, 1863.
4. Mary, b. Dec., 1857; d. April 13, 1858.
5. Arthur, b. Jan. 29, 1859; d. young.
6. Talbot, b. Jan. 13, 1861; md. 1882, Isabel Blankinship; resides in Boston.
7. Waterman, b. Nov. 8, 1863; md. Jan., 1887, Emeline Nichols.
8. Frederick L., b. Aug. 5, 1865.

21 iv. *Robert White*, b. April 7, 1828; md. June 30, 1853, Eliza K. Cowdrey, b. Jan. 26, 1827, dau. of Jacob and Hannah (Blood) Cowdrey. He is proprieter of the Corey Mills near the line of Rindge, and for several years has been one of the road commissioners.

22 1. Emma Clara, b. Oct. 7, 1854; d. Oct. 18, 1854.
23 2. Flora Helen, b. Nov. 2, 1856; d. Nov. 16, 1862.
24 3. Walter Herbert, b. Jan. 9, 1858; d. Oct. 25, 1862.
25 4. Carrie Belle, b. May 15, 1861; md. James A. Lane, son of Allen F. Lane, *q. v.*
26 5. Herman R., b. Sept. 10, 1862.
27 6. Effie E., b. Dec. 28, 1864.
28 7. Hiland, b. April 18, 1867; d. Sept. 28, 1869.
29 8. Gertie V., b. Jan. 16, 1869.

30 v. *Parley*. b. Aug. 23, 1833; md. Jan. 1, 1856, Hattie E. Hardy of New Ipswich. In the Civil War he served in the 25th Regiment.

31 1. Ruby S., b. 1860; md. Charles Wilson; reside in Jaffrey, N. H.
32 2. Frank, b. June 22, 1872.

1 NATHAN MELVIN was a resident of Dorchester Canada, several years previous to the incorporation of Ashburnham. He lived in the ninth school district and near the Amos Pierce farm. He was a farmer and an innholder. He was chosen a deer reeve in 1765, and subsequently was an assessor and a selectman. In 1775 his name is found on the roll of Capt. Davis' company. He was here in 1780 and was then chosen a surveyor of the highways, but the family removed soon after that date. The name of his wife was Anna; six or more children were b. in this town. Mary Melvin, probably a relative and possibly an elder dau., md. Sept. 11, 1770, John Bigelow.

2 i. *Anna*, b. Nov. 8, 1760.
3 ii. *Sarah*, b. Sept. 15, 1762.
4 iii. *Phebe*, b. March 27, 1765.
5 iv. *Hepsibah*, b. March 24, 1767.
6 v. *Nathan*, b. March 1, 1769.
7 vi. *Theodore*, b. May 1, 1771.

MERRIAM.

During the Revolution, and until the close of the century, a family of Merriam resided in this town, but none of the descendants of this family appear among the later inhabitants of Ashburnham. Isaac Merriam, the head of this family, was of the fifth generation of Merriam in this country. Through valued favors of George O. Merriam of Dorchester this register is rendered more complete. Joseph Merriam, a son of William and Sarah Merriam of Hadlowe, county of Kent, England, with wife Sarah, is found residing in Concord at an early date. He was admitted freeman March 14, 1638, and d. Jan. 1, 1641. Joseph Merriam, probably the eldest of three sons, was b. 1630; he md. July 12, 1653, Sarah Stone, b. 1633, dau. of Dea. Gregory Stone. He was admitted freeman May 22, 1651; he d. April 20, 1677; his widow d. April 8, 1704. Thomas Merriam, son of Joseph and Sarah (Stone) Merriam, b. 1672, md. Dec. 23, 1696, Mary Hayward, and resided in Lexington, where he was a constable and selectman several years. He d. Aug. 16, 1738; his widow d. Sept. 29, 1756. The youngest of several sons was Isaac Merriam, b. July 11, 1714. He md. Sarah Davis, and among his children was Isaac Merriam of Ashburnham.

Benjamin Merriam, number 32, was of the seventh generation in this country, and was a descendant of John, another son of Joseph and Sarah (Stone) Merriam. He was b. May 30, 1662; md. 1688, Mary Wheeler of Concord; resided at Cambridge Farms, now Lexington, and was one of the most prominent men of the parish and of the town. He d. May 21, 1727; his widow d. Dec. 26, 1747. His son, Jonas Merriam, bap. Jan. 12, 1704, md. Oct. 3, 1728, Abigail Locke, b. June 22, 1710, dau. of Dea. William and Abigail (Hayward) Locke of Woburn; she d. Dec. 5, 1755; he md. (2d) June 22, 1758, Sarah Winship. He lived in Lexington and was frequently chosen to office. He d. July 23, 1776; his wife d. March 15, 1773. Abraham Merriam, son of Jonas, b. Dec. 23, 1734, md. April 22, 1756, Sarah Simonds, b. April 25, 1739, dau. of Daniel and Abigail (Smith) Simonds. They lived some years in Lexington and about 1767 removed to Woburn, where their son, Ezra Merriam, was b. June 15, 1760. He md. Susan Elliot and resided in Mason, N. H.

1 ISAAC MERRIAM, son of Isaac and Sarah (Davis) Merriam, was b. in Concord 1736. He md. April 10, 1759, Eleanor Munroe of Lexington who d. in Concord July 19, 1767; he md. (2d) Dec. 2, 1767, Rebecca Davis of Acton. With four children he removed to Ashburnham in 1772 or early in 1773. He was a selectman and prominent in the affairs of the town. In 1793 he removed to Groton, N. H.

2 I. *David*, b. in Concord Jan. 28, 1760.+

3 II. *Isaac*, b. in Concord Jan. 29, 1762.+

4 III. *Jonathan*, b. in Concord July 6, 1764.+

5 IV. *Benjamin*, b. in Concord July 9, 1767; d. in Malone, N. Y.

6 V. *Rebecca*, b. in Concord Nov. 12, 1771.

7 VI. *Joshua*, b. in Ashburnham Nov. 11, 1775; d. in Malone, N. Y.

8 VII. *Jonas*, b. in Ashburnham April 25, 1780; lived in Brandon, Vt.

(2) Capt. David Merriam came to this town with the family; was a soldier in the Revolution. *Vide* page 192. He md. Nov. 21, 1782, Phebe Foster, dau. of Moses Foster, Jr., *q. v.*, and soon after this marriage he removed to Brandon, Vt. His wife d. April 7, 1794, and he again appears in the records and is styled Capt. David Merriam, and md. Feb. 10, 1795, Betty Conant, dau. of Ebenezer Conant, Jr., *q. v.* He d. in Brandon, Vt., Feb. 15, 1849; his wife d. June 3, 1842.

9 i. *Phebe*, b. Dec. 26, 1783.
10 ii. *David*, b. June 9, 1786.
11 iii. *George W.*, b. Oct. 4, 1787.
12 iv. *Isaac Foster*, b. July 27, 1790.
13 v. *Cyrus*, b. July 14, 1793.
14 vi. *Betsey*, b. Sept. 13, 1796.
15 vii. *Alvin*, b. March 26, 1802.
16 viii. *Angeline E.*, b. July 18, 1808.
17 ix. *Daniel D.*

(3) Isaac Merriam was a soldier in the Revolution. *Vide* page 191. After the war he removed from this town and subsequently lived in Northumberland, N. H. He md. 1786, Betsey Wait, b. April 8, 1765. He d. in Jackson, N. Y., Feb. 1, 1853. Two of his children are living in Northumberland.

18 i. *David*, b. May 5, 1790.
19 ii. *Isaac*, b Feb. 24, 1792.
20 iii. *Betsey*, b. March 2, 1794.
21 iv. *William*, b. March 21, 1796; d. July 5, 1814.
22 v. *Jonas*, b. May 23, 1798.
23 vi. *Benjamin*, b. Sept. 15, 1801.
24 vii. *Joseph Waite*, b. Aug. 27, 1803.
25 viii. *Sarah*, b. March 31, 1808.

(4) Jonathan Merriam md. Nov. 6, 1788, Sarah Conant, dau. of Ebenezer, Jr., *q. v.* He resided in this town until near the close of the century and removed with other families to Brandon, Vt., perhaps in 1798. He was a captain of the militia in this town. He d. April 26, 1826.

26 i. *Isaac*, b. Oct. 25, 1789.
27 ii. *Jonathan*, b. Nov. 5, 1791.
28 iii. *Sarah*, b. Aug. 31, 1794; md. Rev. Samuel Waite, D. D.
29 iv. *Abel Wood*, b. ——.
30 v. *Mylon*, b. ——.
31 vi. *Lydia*, b. ——; md. Jacob Powers of Brandon.

32 BENJAMIN MERRIAM, son of Ezra and Susan (Elliot) Merriam, was b. in Mason, N. H., May 13, 1802. He md. Nov. 4, 1832, Irene Knapp, b. Jan. 4, 1812, dau. of Elijah and Rhoda Knapp, of Mason, N. H. The family removed to this town in 1845, where he was engaged some years in the stove and hardware trade. He d. Aug 5, 1872.

33 I. *Benjamin F.*, b. Sept. 7, 1833; d. Nov. 27, 1865.
34 II. *Henry A.*, b. June 16, 1835; d. March 28, 1865.
35 III. *George E.*, b. Sept. 3, 1837; d. March 25, 1842.
36 IV. *Emily E.*, b. July 7, 1842; md. Francis J. Litch, *q. v.*
37 V. *Susan M.*, b. July 16, 1844; d. Dec. 13, 1861.
38 VI. *Abbie I.*, b. Oct. 16, 1846; md. June 2, 1867, William H. Richardson of Ashburnham. He is a manufacturer of carriages and a dealer in carriages, sleighs and furnishings.
39 VII. *Laura E.*, b. Jan. 7, 1849; d. March 2, 1878.
40 VIII. *Clarabell A.*, b. Aug. 7, 1853; d. May 21, 1882.

MERRIAM.

The families of Merriam included in the following register are a branch of the Marion family. The name of Merriam was assumed by William and Joseph of Ashburnham and their descendants, and it appears that Ignatius Marion was the ancestor of the later families of Merriam in this town. This also accounts for the name of Meriam which frequently appears in the signatures and records of the town. John Marion, b. in England 1620, d. in —— 1705; Sarah, his wife, b. 1625, d. Feb. 3, 1709. Samuel Marion, son of John and Sarah, b. Dec. 14, 1655, lived in Boston, Charlestown and again in Boston. He md. Hannah ——, who d. April 4, 1688. Reference is made to her death in Sewall's Diary: "At night Sam Marion's wife hangs herself in the chamber, fastening a cord to the Rafter Joice; two or three said she was distracted and had been for some time. She was buried in the burying place." He md. (2d) Mary Wilson, dau. of Edward and Mary (Hale) Wilson of Charlestown. He d. Aug. 6, 1726. Among the twelve children of Samuel Marion was Isaac Marion, a son of the second wife, b. in Charlestown March 8, 1694. He md. July 7, 1717, Rebecca Knight, and of their five children Ignatius, the second son, came to Ashburnham, and Rebecca, the youngest, b. Oct. 18, 1730, d. here unmd. June 2, 1816.

1 IGNATIUS MERRIAM, son of Isaac and Rebecca (Knight) Merriam, was b. Aug. 15, 1724. He lived in Lexington, where the birth of children Susannah and Joseph are recorded, and in Woburn. Joseph, in his affidavit, page 209, alleges that he was b. in Woburn. I have found no record of his marriage. After his children were married and settled in life he came to this town, where two sons were living, about 1790. He d. April 3, and his wife d. April 2, 1799; they were buried in one grave in the old cemetery.

2 I. *Mary*, b. Feb. 9, 1749; md. —— Draper.
3 II. *Susannah*, b. Jan. 9, 1751; md. April 8, 1777, Ephraim Winship, b. in Lexington June 25, 1753, son of Richard Winship.
4 III. *Sarah*, b. June 19, 1754; md. —— Reed.
5 IV. *Hepsibah*, b. Aug. 2, 1756; md. —— Wetherbee.
6 V. *Abigail*, b. March 20, 1760; d. unmd. in Francestown, N. H.
7 VI. *Joseph*, b. Feb 3, 1763.+
8 VII. *William*, b. Sept. 12, 1767.+

(7) JOSEPH MERRIAM md. Sept. 25, 1782, Phebe Russell, b. May 24, 1764, dau. of Philip and Lydia (Dodge) Russell of Lexington. He lived a short time in Bedford, removing to this town in 1784. He lived at the centre of the town, in the northwest, and subsequently in the southwest part of the town, near the toll-gate. He d. April 4, 1849, aged 86 years; recorded 88; she d. May 29, 1845, aged 81 years; recorded 71.

9 I. *Philip Russell*, b. Jan. 4, 1784.+
10 II. *Joseph*, b. Aug. 19, 1785.+
11 III. *Nathan*, b. Oct. 21, 1787; d. in Ashburnham unmd. April 7, 1851.
12 IV. *Phebe*, b. Dec. 13, 1789; md. Philip Bowman, son of John Bowman, *q. v.*
13 V. *Jonas*, b. Nov. 25, 1804; removed to New Orleans, La., where he d. unmd. Oct. 23, 1832.
14 VI. *Joshua*, b. Oct. 10, 1807.+

(8) WILLIAM MERRIAM md. Oct. 30, 1788, Rebecca Metcalf, dau. of Joseph Metcalf, *q. v.* He was a blacksmith and lived near Factory Village. He is remembered as a man of good character and an excellent citizen. He d. June 11, 1834; she d. Dec. 9, 1831.

15 I. *William S.*, b. Feb. 14, 1789.+
16 II. *Ezekiel*, b. May 17, 1792.+
17 III. *Moses B.*, b. March 19, 1794; md. March 14, 1824, Abigail Simonds; was a machinist; d. in Northboro' Dec. 24, 1876; his wife d. Dec. 17, 1870.
18 IV. *Rebecca*, b. Dec. 12, 1796; d. April 1, 1819.
19 V. *Margaret S.*, b. April 26, 1800; d. June 10, 1830.
20 VI. *Joel*, b. Jan. 28, 1802.+
21 VII. *James*, b. Oct. 16, 1803.+
22 VIII. *Asa*, b. Feb. 2, 1810.+
23 IX. *Sarah R.*, b. Sept. 20, 1816; d. Jan. 15, 1817.

(9) PHILIP R. MERRIAM was a merchant and a manufacturer of chairs in this town, and for many years he was engaged in teaming between Ashburnham and Boston. He was enterprising and ambitious and, until the advent of the Winchesters, who were his successors in the chair business, he was the principal supporter of the activities of the town. He md. Oct. 2, 1806, Sally Sanderson, dau. of Moses Sanderson, *q. v.*; she d. Oct. 15, 1843; md. (2d) Sept. 6, 1844, Ruth (Wallis) Morton, widow of John D. Morton, *q. v.* He d. April 29, 1880; his wife d. June 7, 1865.

24 I. *Philip Russell*, b. May 29, 1807.+
25 II. *Otis Whiton*, b. May 27, 1812.+
26 III. *Francis Henry*, b. Sept. 23, 1845; d. unmd. April 14, 1869.

(10) JOSEPH MERRIAM, son of Joseph, md. Sept. 11, 1806, Betsey Adams; md. (2d) May 4, 1809, Betty (Gates) Wheeler, widow of Josiah Wheeler of Gardner and dau. of John Gates, *q. v.* He removed 1807 to Boxboro' and subsequently lived in Chesterfield, N. H., and in Royalston. He d. Oct. 11, 1850.

27 I. *Josiah W.*, b. June 12, 1809; was a merchant in Baltimore; md. Eliza Ann Rowell; md. (2d) Catherine Hall. Six children.
28 II. *Elizabeth A.*, b. April 12, 1811; unmd.
29 III. *John G.*, b. April 18, 1813; md. May 12, 1833, Sarah F. Warren; lived several years in Leominster. Four children.
30 IV. *Sultina H.*, b. June 23, 1815; md. Nov. 17, 1842, Edward H. Reif; removed to Baltimore. Six children.
31 V. *Sarah G.*, b. May 7, 1817; md. Sept. 3, 1849, George W. E. Kelley of Hopkinton, N. H. Two children.
32 VI. *Nancy H.*, b. Oct. 26, 1819; md. June 20, 1859, Benjamin B. Howell. Five children.
33 VII. *Anna T.*, b. Aug. 26, 1822; md. Sept. 3, 1845, Henry Bisselle. Three children.

(14) JOSHUA MERRIAM md. Nov. 19, 1835, Nancy W. Holbrook, dau. of Jesse Holbrook, *q. v.* She d. July 30, 1852; md. (2d) Nov. 14, 1852, Roxanna Fassett of Fitzwilliam, N. H., who d. Oct. 3, 1859; md. (3d) June 1, 1861, Jane R. Wood, b. in England, a sister of Rev. Pliny Wood. He is a shoemaker in Central Village.

34 i. *Sarah E.*, b. May 21, 1839; md. March 10, 1868, Harding G. Woodward of Greenfield; he d. March 9, 1884. Three children.
35 ii. *Jane E.*, b. Sept. 29, 1840; d. Feb. 14, 1844.
36 iii. *Effie Jane*, b. June 2, 1863.

(15) William S. Merriam md. March 10, 1810, Martha Lawrence, dau. of Amos Lawrence, *q. v.* He was a blacksmith in this town and lived on the Amos Whitney farm and near the homestead of his father. In 1841 he removed to Chelsea. He d. Aug. 3, 1878; she d. Aug., 1872.

37 i. *Otis*, b. Sept. 14, 1810; md. Jan. 1, 1830, Abigail R. Savils; removed to Chelsea 1832; his wife d. May 7, 1839; md. (2d) Oct. 10, 1839, Harriet Lamont. He has continued a residence in Chelsea many years, and was an auctioneer and an insurance and real estate agent. A few years ago he began business at Putnam, Conn., and until recently was president of the Putnam Gas Light Company. Four children.
38 ii. *Ezra Lawrence*, b. Feb. 28, 1812; md. Aug. 27, 1835, Eliza B. Prescott who d. July 12, 1865; resides in Putnam, Conn.
39 iii. *Martha M.*, b. Oct. 10, 1814; md. Lyman Wood of Fitchburg; she d. March 8, 1839.
40 iv. *William Newton*, b. Nov. 15, 1816; md. 1841, Abigail Lord of Sanbornton; removed to Chelsea; md. (2d) Margaret Clark; served in 40th Mass. Regiment and d. in Andersonville prison.
41 v. *Susan Augusta Wilson*, b. Nov. 8, 1818; md. Dec. 12, 1855, William E. Stanwood.
42 vi. *Liberty*, b. Jan. 16, 1821; md. March 8, 1844, Lucinda Douglas; md. (2d) 1854, Mary Ann Heath. He was a manufacturer of wall paper.
43 vii. *Elvira*, b. Dec. 31, 1822; md. May 22, 1844, George G. Desmezes; resides in Chelsea.
44 viii. *Sultina Townsend*, b. June 15, 1825; md. Oct. 2, 1845, William E. Stanwood; she d. May 8, 1853.
45 ix. *Jeremiah Metcalf*, b. July 7, 1827; md. Nov. 7, 1847, Elizabeth Moseley; was a manufacturer of wall paper.
46 x. *Sarah*, b. Nov. 6, 1829; d. Aug. 17, 1832.

(16) Ezekiel Merriam md. Nov. 23, 1815, Nancy Reed, dau. of Jonas Reed, *q. v.* He was a stone-cutter and

resided in Mason, N. H., and in this town. He d. Jan. 25, 1863; she d. Nov., 1875.

47 I. *Nancy*, b. Aug. 26, 1816; md. Sept. 12, 1838, George Howard; she d. in Ashby March 2, 1848.

48 II. *William Johnson*, b. Aug. 25, 1818; md. June 1, 1842, Matilda Russell of Boston; he d. at Auburndale Dec. 16, 1875.

49 III. *Rebecca*, b. Feb. 5, 1822; d. Feb. 25, 1822.

50 IV. *Rebecca*, b. June 8, 1824; md. Nov. 19, 1840, Harvey Howard; she d. at Nashua, N. H., Aug. 26, 1870; he d. Feb. 6, 1874.

51 V. *George W.*, b. Aug. 12, 1827; md. Nov. 1, 1850, Caroline Sears.

52 VI. *Sarah*, b. Jan. 18, 1832; md. May 12, 1853, Theodore H. Wood, b. in Littleton April 13, 1830. Mr. Wood removed from Worcester to Nashua in 1852. He was treasurer of the Nashua and Lowell Railroad several years and president of the Manchester and Keene Railroad. Sarah (Merriam) Wood d. Sept. 5, 1880.

53 1. Clara Abbott, b. July 2, 1854; md. April 15, 1875, Francis E. Nims who d. June 1, 1881.

(20) JOEL MERRIAM md. 1826, Deborah Cook, dau. of John Cook, *q. v.*; resided in this town; he d. Dec. 17, 1858; she d. 1877.

54 I. *John Cook*, b. June 15, 1827; md. Oct. 7, 1849, Sophronia A. Chase of Leominster; resides in Athol.

55 II. *Rosilla*, b. Nov. 9, 1828; d. March 7, 1831.

56 III. *Rosilla*, b. Dec. 5, 1831.

57 IV. *Mary E.*, b. June 15, 1834; md. Job Foster of Ashby; he d. March 14, 1877. Six children.

58 V. *Edward Balcom*, b. 1841; served in 36th Regiment; resides in Lawrence.

59 VI. *Angeline*, b. ——; md. William Drury; she d. in Worcester 1882.

60 VII. *Rhoda*, b. ——; md. Samuel McC——; resides in Lawrence.

61 VIII. *Melinda*, b. Feb. 16, 1847; md. Clarence Upton; resides in Lawrence.

(21) JAMES MERRIAM, son of William, md. 1827, Susan Bemis, b. in Winchendon May 27, 1807, dau. of Abel

Bemis. He resided in this town where he d. July 31, 1840; she md. (2d) Hosea Green, *q. v.*

62 I. *Dolly*, b. Nov. 2, 1830; d. Sept. 13, 1833.
63 II. *Dolly A.*, b. Aug. 26, 1834, md. Prof. Levi W. Russell, *q. v.*

(22) Asa Merriam resided in this town until about 1848, when he removed to Gardner. He was much employed in town affairs; was captain of the Light Infantry and represented the town of Gardner in the Legislature. He md. Oct. 11, 1832, Almira B. Crosby, dau. of Frederic Crosby, *q. v.* She d. Feb. 13, 1845; md. (2d) 1845, Mary Barker, b. Aug. 31, 1811, who d. Aug. 13, 1864; md. (3d) Esther C. Ryan, b. May 27, 1825; d. March 23, 1883. He d. in Gardner Jan. 24, 1885.

64 I. *Milton*, b. April 29, 1835; md. Elizabeth G. Watts, b. March 30, 1837; resides in Gardner.
65 II. *Lavina*, b. March 30, 1837.
66 III. *Mary Almira*, b. Dec. 28, 1846.
67 IV. *Frances Neuton*, b. Jan. 9, 1848; d. Sept. 23, 1848.
68 V. *Austin*, b. May 25, 1852; d. Nov. 18, 1852.

(24) Philip R. Merriam, Jr., was engaged in business with his father and subsequently was a merchant in this town. He removed in 1840 to Chelsea and was in trade in that city and in Boston. He md. July 2, 1835, Helen A. Smallpeace, b. in Boston Feb. 20, 1816, dau. of Robert and Hannah (Stevens) Smallpeace. He d. March 25, 1879; his widow resides in this town.

69 I. *Helen Maria*, b. April 27, 1838; d. May 16, 1852.
70 II. *Florence Otis*, b. Oct. 24, 1853; md. Jan. 24, 1817, Frank H. Parker, son of Jesse Parker, *q. v.*
71 III. *Abbott Smallpeace*, b. Sept 4, 1855; md. Aug. 31, 1880, Jennie Fleming; resides in Boston.

(25) Otis W. Merriam was associated with his father in the manufacture of chairs and subsequently was a partner of Charles Winchester. At his suggestion many substantial innovations were adopted, and while he remained in this town he was an important factor in the development of an industry which has contributed to the prosperity of the town. Subsequently he was engaged in business in Boston and in California. He now resides, an invalid, in Chelsea. He md. Hepsey Gibson, dau. of Samuel Gibson of Ashby. She d. June 27, 1843; he md. (2d) —— ——.



Simeon Merritt.



Wm. A. Smith.

72 i. *Caroline A.*, b. ——; md. Forest S. Chadbourne; resides in California.

1 DANIEL MERRILL came to this town from Fitchburg in April, 1766. He md. Sept. 27, 1766, Eunice Fellows, dau. of Samuel Fellows, *q. v.* Three children were b. in this town, and in 1772 the family removed to Deerfield. I have no record of a former marriage or the death of the first wife of Daniel Merrill; but when he came to this town he had a son Moses.

2 i. *Moses*, b. previous to April, 1766.
3 ii. *Daniel*, b. May 7, 1767.
4 iii. *Samuel*, b. Oct. 19, 1768.
5 iv. *Billy*, b. Dec. 5, 1770.

MERRITT.

HENRY MERRITT, b. in the county of Kent, England, about 1590, came to America previous to 1628. He settled in Scituate and became a large landed proprietor. He d., leaving sons John and Henry, 1652. The son John, b. about 1625, succeeded to the estate of his father in Scituate and is supposed to be the only son who left descendants. He md. 1655, Elizabeth Wyborne, dau. of Thomas Wyborne of Boston, and was living in 1670. John Merritt, son of John and Elizabeth (Wyborne) Merritt, b. in Scituate 1660, md. 1686, Elizabeth Hyland, dau. of Thomas and Elizabeth (Stockbridge) Hyland of Scituate. He d. in Scituate June 5, 1740, leaving twelve children. Among these was Jonathan Merritt, b. 1702; md 1727, Mehitable Damon, dau. of Zachary and Mehitable (Chittenden) Damon. About 1730 he removed from Scituate to Hebron, Conn., where he d. Oct. 21, 1758. Noah Merritt, son of Jonathan, b. 1730, removed to Templeton as early as 1753. I find no record of his marriage, but the fact is attested by thirteen children. He d. March 24, 1814. Simeon Merritt, son of Noah of Templeton, md. 1798, Dorcas Gay. They resided in Templeton. Their son, Increase Sumner Merritt, b. Oct. 15, 1799, resided some years in Gardner and returned to Templeton, where he d. April 15, 1877. He md. Susan Penniman, dau. of Ezra Penniman of Gardner, who d. Aug. 21, 1862. Two sons of these parents have resided in this town.

1 SIMEON MERRITT, son of Increase S. and Susan (Penniman) Merritt, was b. in Gardner March 21, 1823. At the age of twenty-three years he removed to this town and became prominently associated with public affairs. He was a selectman eight years, a road commissioner and was repeatedly elected to other positions of trust. He was a delegate to the constitutional convention in 1853 and a representative to the Legislature in 1877. He was well informed in public affairs and the political problems of his time, and manifested a lively interest in local and national politics. He md. Aug. 13, 1846, Eunice Taylor, dau. of Ephraim Taylor, *q. v.* She d. Dec. 3, 1872; md. (2d) Jan. 1, 1877, Abbie E. (Whitney) Barrell, widow of Charles W. Barrell and dau. of Ohio Whitney, *q. v.* He d. Dec. 19, 1882.

2 i. *Eunice Jane*, b. May 27, 1847; d. Aug. 25, 1847.
3 ii. *Ellen Anna*, b. Oct. 21, 1851; d. Dec. 15, 1851.

4 Ezra M. Merritt, a brother of Simeon, was b. in Gardner March 2, 1825. He is a chair maker and has resided in this town since 1849. He md. Dec., 1855, Adaline M. Sawyer, dau. of Abel Sawyer, *q. v.*; she d. Aug. 14, 1886.

5 i. *Carrie M.*, b. Nov. 8, 1861; d. Jan. 10, 1866.

1 Joseph Metcalf, b. April 3, 1734, is found residing in Groton several years before he came to Ashburnham. In 1755 he served in the Indian War. He md. Jan. 24, 1759, Margaret (Shattuck) Bennett, b. in Groton July 4, 1732, widow of Joseph Bennett and dau. of William and Margaret (Lund) Shattuck. These are the ancestors of all the Metcalfs who have resided in Ashburnham. They removed from Groton in 1770 and settled east of Lake Naukeag and about two hundred yards northwest from the residence of John T. Wilson. The fame of their kindness as neighbors and exemplary character is renewed in the traditions of succeeding generations. Among their descendants are included many bearing the names of Rice, Townsend, Laws and Merriam, and in later generations other names are included in the collateral branches. Joseph Metcalf d. from injuries received by falling from an apple tree, March 19, 1793, aged 59 years; Margaret, his widow, d. suddenly in Groton, while visiting her brother, Job Shattuck, June 20, 1802, aged nearly 70 years.

2 i. *Ezekiel Shattuck*, b. Oct. 13, 1759.+
3 ii. *Samuel*, b. March 15, 1761.+
4 iii. *Margaret*, b. March 19, 1763; md. Reuben Townsend, *q. v.*
5 iv. *Sarah*, b. Sept. 7, 1765; md Reuben Rice, *q. v.*
6 v. *Thankful*, b. Aug. 18, 1767; d. young.
7 vi. *Rebecca*, b. Aug. 13, 1769; md. William Merriam, *q. v.*
8 vii. *Joseph*, b. Aug. 25, 1771; d. March 29, 1791.
9 viii. *Jeremiah*, b. Oct. 30, 1773; d. March 8, 1774.
10 ix. *Thankful*, b. May 18, 1775; md. March 21, 1797, James Laws, son of James Laws of Westminster.

2) Ezekiel S. Metcalf md. Jan. 10, 1782, Eunice Brooks. He was a farmer on the homestead. He d. May 31, 1831; she d. June 12, 1811.

11 I. *Eunice*, b. ——; md. Jonas Robbins, *q. v.*
12 II. *Ezekiel*, b. ——.+
13 III. *Joseph*, b. ——; md. 1814, Lucy Adams of Westminster. Resided in Gardner.
14 IV. *Jeremiah*, b. 1789.+
15 V. *Lucy*, b. ——; md. Samuel Marble, *q. v.*
16 VI. *Asa*, b. June 8, 1793; d. Sept. 10, 1794.
17 VII. *Dinah*, b. ——; md. Daniel Adams of Gardner. She d. about 1830, leaving eight children.
18 VIII. *Rhoda*, b. May 4, 1799; md. Phinehas Stimson, Jr., *q. v.*

(3) SAMUEL METCALF, whose service in the Revolution is stated in Chapters V. and VI, removed from this town about 1785. He lived in Groton, N. H., where he d. Dec. 25, 1822. He md. Nov. 3, 1786, Phebe Fletcher who d. April 7, 1802; md. (2d) June 10, 1802, Betsey Kemp. Nearly all of his numerous children removed to the West.

19 I. *Samuel*, b. Aug. 3, 1787; md. Dec. 26, 1815, Mary Ball of Groton, N. H.; removed to Kirtland, Ohio. Three children.
20 II. *Reuben*, b. Aug. 3, 1789; d. unmd. 1823.
21 III. *Aaron* (twin), b. Aug. 3, 1789; md. 1812, Sally Ames, b. in Groton, N. H., 1788. (Probably this family of Ames were descendants of Stephen Ames who removed from Ashburnham to Groton in 1776.) Removed to Kirtland, Ohio. Four children.
22 IV. *Joseph*, b. Aug. 12, 1792; md. Lucy Ames (a sister of Sally Ames), b. 1794; removed to Kirtland, Ohio; she d. 1843. Three children.
23 V. *Levi*, b. Nov. 7, 1794; md. Betsey Whipple of Groton, N. H.; removed to Michigan. He d. 1848. Five children.
24 VI. *Moses*, b. May 5, 1797; md. Sally Overrocker; removed to Jackson county, Mich. Six children.
[Was his wife a descendant of John Overlock of Ashburnham?]
25 VII. *David*, b. Feb. 10, 1799; d. March, 1799.
26 VIII. *Nehemiah*, b. March 24, 1802; d. unmd. Nov. 11, 1842.
27 IX. *Hardy* (twin), b. March 24, 1802; md. Nov. 24, 1826, Judith B. Russell; removed to Plainfield, Ill. Six children.
28 X. *William*, b. Dec. 31, 1804; a ship carpenter; lived in Massachusetts.

29 xi. *Betsey*, b. June 15, 1808; md. —— Kidder; lived in Groton, N. H.
30 xii. *Infant*, b. April 29, 1811; died in infancy.
31 xiii. *Infant* (twin), b. April 29, 1811; d. in infancy.
32 xiv. *Phebe*, b. May 28, 1815; md. Ezra Ames; removed to Minnesota.
33 xv. *David*, b. July 31, 1819; went to California.

(12) Ezekiel Metcalf md. Feb. 16, 1815, Dorothy Foster, dau. of Samuel Foster, *q. v.* He was a farmer on Foster Hill. He d. Feb. 26, 1852; she d. April 14, 1867.

34 i. *Otis*, b. Jan. 10, 1816.+
35 ii. *Joel F.*, b. Jan. 6, 1819.+
36 iii. *Mary Ann*, b. April 17, 1821; md. Orin Morton, *q. v.*
37 iv. *Sultina*, b. Dec. 2, 1824; d. Sept. 29, 1840.
38 v. *Lavina S.*, b. Sept. 26, 1835; d. Sept. 14, 1848.

(14) Jeremiah Metcalf md. Nov. 28, 1815, Dorothy Clark, dau. of David Clark, *q. v.* He was a man of good repute; a farmer on the old homestead. He d. March 25, 1824; she d. May 12, 1869.

39 i. *Cynthia*, b. Feb. 15, 1817; md. John Cook, *q. v.*
40 ii. *Leonard*, b. Jan. 27, 1819; md. Feb. 24, 1846, Tryphenia T. Travis of Shirley; she d. April 30, 1853; he md. (2d) March 25, 1854, Esther Damon of Ashby. He d. in this town Sept. 17, 1857. Three children were b. in Boston.

41 1. Frank A., b. Feb. 21, 1847; md. Sept. 11, 1871, Ella H. Reynolds of New Bedford; he resides in Charlestown.
42 2. Helen M., b. Jan. 11, 1849; md. James Gilman.
43 3. Charles H., b. Sept. 8, 1851.

44 iii. *Levi*, b. Jan. 29, 1821; d. unmd. March 18, 1847.
45 iv. *Charles*, b. Feb. 16, 1823; d. Feb. 24, 1823.
46 v. *George J.*, b. June 5, 1824; d. unmd. Dec. 6, 1863.

(34) Otis Metcalf md. April 23, 1839, Sarah C. Davis, dau. of Reuben Davis of Ashby. He resided in the Central Village. In the Civil War he served in the 36th Regiment and was transferred to the Veteran Reserve Corps. He d. Feb. 8, 1872; she d. April 9, 1882.

47 i. *George O.*, b. April 12, 1840; d. in California April 14, 1870.

48 ii. *S. Sultina*, b. Feb. 18, 1842; md. Jan. 22, 1860, Martin V. B. Howe, b. in Jamaica, Vt., April 7, 1837. Reside in Gardner.

49 iii. *E. Augusta*, b. May 29, 1844; md. Nov. 29, 1866, Charles W. Brigham, b. in Wardsboro', Vt., July 2, 1837; reside in Lowell.

(35) Joel F. Metcalf md. Nov. 28, 1839, Martha D. Davis, dau. of Reuben Davis of Ashby. He resided in this town until he removed to Leominster, 1870. He served his native town as an assessor and a selectman and with the influence of a good citizen. Five children.

50 i. *Emily*, b. May 25, 1841; a physician in Waltham. *Vide* page 516.

51 ii. *Sarah*, b. Jan. 27, 1843; md. Nov., 1865, Jonas P. Sawin, son of Abram Sawin, *q. v.*

52 iii. *Martha*, b. Jan. 6, 1845; d. Nov. 4, 1864.

53 iv. *Maria*, b. Dec. 25, 1846; md. Russell Whitney.

54 v. *Walton J.*, b. March 4, 1854; md. Nov. 15, 1879, Ada Harris; resides at Leominister.

MILLER.

The Miller families of Ashburnham are descendants of Dea. Joseph Miller, a prominent character in the early annals of Westminster. The emigrant ancestor was Richard Miller who is found in Charlestown 1637; he removed to Cambridge and d. previous to 1662, when his widow Eleanor md. (2d) Henry Harbard. Joseph Miller, son of Richard, b. about 1620, md. Mary Pope, dau. of Walter Pope. He resided in Cambridge and in Newton where he d. 1697; his widow d. 1711. Samuel Miller, son of Joseph, was b. in Newton Sept. 24, 1678; md. 1708, Elizabeth Child. He was a selectman in Newton and subsequently removed to Worcester, where he d. 1759. Joseph Miller, son of Samuel, b. in Newton July 29, 1716, md. 1741, Mary Williams and became one of the early settlers of Westminster. He was an assessor, selectman, treasurer, a deacon of the church and a representative. Isaac Miller, b. in Westminster March 31, 1754, the eighth of the eleven children of Dea. Joseph and Mary (Williams) Miller, md. 1779, Sarah Bennett. He resided in Westminster. To these parents seven children were b. as follows: I. Joseph, b. Sept. 22, 1780, resided in Ashburnham and is number 1 in the following register. II. Betsey, b. Feb. 18, 1782, md. —— Winslow. III. Sarah, b. Jan. 3, 1785, md. Joseph Maynard, *q. v.* IV. Rebecca, b. Dec. 20, 1786, md. Aug. 24, 1811, James Hancock of Surry, N. H., and had ten children. V. Isaac, b. July 12, 1789. VI. Benjamin, b. April 15, 1791, resided some years in Ashburnham. No record of his marriage and children has been received. His dau., Susan W. Miller, md. July 3, 1842, John W. Hunt of Worcester. VII. Abigail, b. June 18, 1793, md. 1825, Ira Hyland of Westmoreland, N. H. They had three children: 1. Clarissa Maria, b. Jan. 8, 1827, md. Frederic A. Parker; 2. Reuben, b. Jan. 21, 1829, road master and wood agent of Cheshire Railroad; 3. Joseph M., b. Feb. 28, 1831. VIII. Dorcas, bap. Oct. 5, 1800. The mother, Sarah (Bennett) Miller, was a member of the church in Ashburnham and several of her children were baptized by Mr. Cushing.

1 JOSEPH MILLER, son of Isaac, b. in Westminster Sept. 22, 1780, md. Dec. 2, 1802, Zipporah Ellis, dau. of Jesse Ellis, *q. v.*; she d. Nov. 4, 1827; he md. (2d) June 4, 1829, Hannah (Marble) Barrett, widow of Joel Barrett, Jr., *q. v.* He was a carpenter in Ashburnham. He d. July 12, 1860; his widow d. Aug. 14, 1875. Three children by first and two by second marriage.

2 I. *Obed E.*, b. Feb. 26, 1803; md. June 17, 1827, Sarah Lapham of Fitchburg; md. (2d) Sept. 13, 1842, Hannah Twiss of Charlestown. He is a carpenter in Templeton.

3 II. *Nancy*, b. May 29, 1805; d. unmd. Dec. 12, 1826.

4 III. *Stephen Austin*, b. July 1, 1819.+

5 IV. *Sarah Nancy*, b. April 18, 1830; md. Oct. 22, 1851, William Leonard Davis, dealer in stoves, furnaces and tin ware, in firm of Davis, Wright & Co., Keene, N. H.

6 V. *George*, b. May 16, 1834; d. July 6, 1834.

(4) STEPHEN A. MILLER is kindly remembered in his native town as a loyal citizen and a gentleman of unblemished character. He removed about 1855 to Leominster, where in company with Oliver G. Caldwell he has been actively engaged in the manufacture of tubs and pails. In his business and social relations he has not failed in commanding the respect of his associates. He md. Feb. 2, 1843, Miranda S. Wilder of Winchendon.

7 I. *Emeretta M.*, b. Nov. 9, 1846; md. June 15, 1870, Francis W. Burdett; resides in Leominster.

8 II. *Genifrede Josephine*, b. Aug. 4, 1850; md. Feb. 26, 1880, C. Stephen Marcy of Fitchburg.

9 III. *Edward Austin*, b. May 30, 1852; d. May 27, 1859.

10 IV. *Joseph Lewis*, b. Nov. 29, 1857; md. July 21, 1880, Carrie E. Sanderson of Shirley; resides in Leominster.

11 DR. ALFRED MILLER, son of John and Betsey (Robinson) Miller and a grandson of Robert Miller, was b. in Westminster, Vt., March 15, 1815. Middlebury College 1840; M. D., Woodstock, Vt., 1844; resident physician in Ashburnham 1845–62. *Vide* page 470. He md. Dec. 28, 1847, Elsie L. Kibling, dau. of Francis Kibling, *q. v.*; d. in Fitchburg Nov. 15, 1877.

12 i. *Alfred M.*, b. Oct. 13, 1849; d. Oct. 20, 1849.
13 ii. *Ernest Parker*, b. Jan. 4, 1851. He is a physician in Fitchburg. *Vide* page 508. He md. Oct., 1878, Myra B. Richardson.
14 iii. *Alice*, b. April 20, 1855; graduate of Fitchburg High School 1873; Vassar College 1876.
15 iv. *Emma Louise*, b. Nov. 26, 1857; md. Oct., 1878, George H. Crocker.
16 v. *Margaret Fiske*, b. March 8, 1868.
17 vi. *Alfred Kibling*, b. March 31, 1870.

1 THOMAS MONOHAN md. in Fitchburg Dec. 8, 1848, Bridget Rowley, and removed to this town a few years subsequently. They are natives of Ireland and reside in the northwest part of the town.

2 i. *John*, b. July 13, 1849; d. young.
3 ii. *Lizzie*, b. Dec. 19, 1852; md. B. F. Brewin.
4 iii. *Thomas P.*, b. Sept. 22, 1854.
5 iv. *Mary*, b. Aug. 5, 1856.
6 v. *Margaret*, b. May 20, 1858; d. May 21, 1863.
7 vi. *James A.*, b. May 3, 1861; d. July 15, 1882.
8 vii. *Ellen*, b. March 8, 1863; d. May 20, 1885.

1 PITT MOORE was b. in Sterling Dec. 5, 1787. He was a son of Jonathan Moore and a brother of Rev. Martin Moore, many years editor of the *Boston Recorder*. He md. Abigail Sawyer and resided in Boylston until 1828, when he removed to this town. He lived many years near Little Watatic on a farm known as the Hinds place. In his age he found a home with his son-in-law Luke Marble. His wife d. about 1821, and he md. (2d) Esther Hastings. He d. March 5, 1877; his widow d. Feb. 21, 1879. The children were b. in Boylston.

2 i. *Asher*, b. Nov. 21, 1815.†
3 ii. *Elliot*, b. April 25, 1819.†
4 iii. *Edward*, b. Jan. 28, 1823; md. Rachel Monahan; he d. May 11, 1859.
5 iv. *Abigail*, b. Sept. 8, 1826; md. Luke Marble, *q. v.*

(2) ASHER MOORE md. April 26, 1841, Elizabeth Leland of Hubbardston. He resides, a farmer, in this town. He was formerly a school-teacher and has been a member of the school committee several years.

6 i. *Martha*, b. May 9, 1842; md. June 20, 1865, Joseph B. Brown. He served in the 21st Regt.

and was discharged on account of wounds, May 7, 1863. She d. Sept. 6, 1880.

7 II. *Oliver*, b. Sept. 28, 1846; d. Jan. 7, 1847.

8 III. *Alfred*, b. Nov. 11, 1847; md. May 10, 1876, Ellen T. Day of Templeton. They reside in Baldwinville.

9 IV. *Charles Asher*, b. Aug. 11, 1862.

(3) ELLIOT MOORE md. Jan. 4, 1841, Dorothy H. Marble, dau. of Oliver Marble, Jr., *q. v.* He was a school-teacher and a merchant in this town, and was a selectman, assessor and a member of the school committee. About twelve years ago he removed to Townsend.

10 I. *Harriet*, b. Dec. 5, 1841; d. young.

11 II. *Abbie S.*, b. Dec. 12, 1849.

12 III. *Alice L.*, b. Aug. 23, 1858.

13 IV. *John Elliot*, b. June 17, 1861; d. 1864.

1 JOHN D. MORTON from Boston was a tailor in this town about ten years. He md. Dec. 5, 1831, Ruth D. Wallis, dau. of David Wallis, *q. v.* He d. Oct. 21, 1841; she md. (2d) Philip R. Merriam, *q. v.*

2 I. *Andrew Wallis*, b. May 26, 1833; removed to Kansas.

3 II. *Mary Wallis*, b. May 2, 1836; md. Aaron Pratt, son of William Pratt, *q. v.*

4 III. *Alexander Hamilton*, b. Feb. 24, 1839; d. Dec. 20, 1854.

5 IV. *Isabelle D.*, b. Sept. 6, 1841; md. Jan. 1, 1867, George J. Savage, b. in Greenfield, N. H., Feb. 22, 1841, son of William and Asenath (Patch) Savage. They reside in this town. Four of their five children are living.

6 ORIN MORTON, b. in Orange May 16, 1817, md. Dec. 26, 1839, Mary Ann Metcalf, dau. of Ezekiel Metcalf, *q. v.*; she d. Nov. 2, 1875. He resides in this town.

7 I. *Mary S.*, b. July 28, 1841; md. Andrew J. Howe; resides in this town.

8 II. *Francis Henry*, b. May 14, 1844; md. Sabra Partridge; resides in Providence, R. I. He served in 21st Regiment.

9 III. *Clara Amanda*, b. April 27, 1848; md. 1869, George Allen of Providence, R. I.; d. July 18, 1876.

10 iv. *Orin Edward*, b. June 23, 1851; d. unmd. Jan. 26, 1873.

11 v. *Dorothy Lavinia*, b. June 23, 1860; resides in Providence, R. I.

MOSSMAN.

The name of Mossman is of frequent mention in the early annals of Dorchester Canada. Timothy Mossman was b. in Wrentham Nov. 17, 1679. He md. July 27, 1701, Sarah Hicks, dau. of Samuel Hicks of Dorchester. On account of the service of the family of his wife in the expedition to Canada in 1690, he was admitted a grantee of the township of Dorchester Canada July 5, 1736. By this favor he became one of the sixty original proprietors of the township. He resided in Sudbury where his wife d., and he md. (2d) Nov. 27, 1767, Tabitha Balcom. He d. Feb. 22, 1773. Among the sons of Timothy and Sarah (Hicks) Mossman was Timothy Mossman, b. in Sudbury 1710. In pages 56 and 79 the assertion is made that Timothy Mossman, Sen., was a resident of Dorchester Canada. All that is said of Timothy Mossman in the record of settlements is fully verified, only it was Timothy Mossman, Jr., and not the father, who came to this town. He was here in the first effort to establish a settlement, and owned the land extending on the west side of Cushing street from Main street to the common. A part or all of this tract with other lands was secured by Timothy Mossman, the father, at the first division of land among the proprietors. On this land the son built a house of entertainment. *Vide* page 71. In 1744, when it became evident that the settlement must be abandoned and at a time when several families had removed to places of greater security, Timothy Mossman remained and was directed to take care of the meeting-house and to board up the windows and doors. In August of this year he sold the house of entertainment and his land to Asher Cutler and was one of the last to desert the settlement. He never returned, but the descendants of Timothy Mossman, Sen., have been included among the later and the present inhabitants of this town. Timothy Mossman, Jr., when driven from this town by the Indian alarm, returned to Sudbury; but a few years after, about 1760, he is found in Princeton, and was living upon the Potash farm in that town. Afterward he lived in Westminster many years, and there his restless spirit found rest Sept. 5, 1801, aged nearly 92 years. He md. Feb. 26, 1733–4, Martha Whitney, b. in Weston April 4, 1716, dau. of William and Martha (Peirce) Whitney.

1 Matthias Mossman, b. in Sudbury March 17, 1749, was a son of James and Elizabeth (Balcom) Mossman and a grandson of Timothy, Sen., and Sarah (Hicks) Mossman. He md. Sarah Haines and removed from Sudbury to Ashburnham in 1793. In 1795 and a few succeeding years he was chosen an assessor, and the repeated mention of his name in the records supports the voice of tradition that he was an educated, capable man and that his services were held in high esteem. He was a farmer and a surveyor and many maps, plans and outlines of highways neatly executed by him are in the possession of John M. Pratt. About 1800 he removed to Westminster, but subsequently returned to this town where he d. Nov. 8, 1819; his wife d. in Westminster Sept. 29, 1808. Of their eleven children the eldest was b. in Marlboro', eight in Sudbury and two in Ashburnham.

2 I. *Micah*, b. July 8, 1774; d. Sept. 17, 1775.
3 II. *Mark*, b. Sept. 3, 1775; md. Oct. 18, 1798, Lois —— of Fitchburg, and removed to Vermont. He d. June 11, 1841.
4 III. *Betsey*, b. June 6, 1777; md. Hayman Wheeler of Westminster; d. May 11, 1809.
5 IV. *Beulah*, b. Oct. 13, 1779; d. July 21, 1824. *Vide* page 546.
6 V. *Rebecca*, b. April 20, 1782; md. John Wilson of Westminster; md. (2d) —— Gilbert of Brookfield; d. March 5, 1864.
7 VI. *John*, b. Oct. 26, 1784; md. May 8, 1810, Copia Ward, dau. of John Ward, *q. v.* He was taxed here a few years and the birth of third child is recorded in this town, but he resided a longer time in Westminster, where he d. June 11, 1841.
8 1. Leonard, b. Sept. 15, 1810.+
9 2. Aaron, b. Nov. 21, 1811; md. Martha Ball.
10 3. John Ward, b. Sept. 26, 1813; md. Mary E. Libbey.
11 4. Lucinda, b. March 8, 1816; md. Nov. 15, 1838, Joseph Woodward. She d. May 10, 1842.
12 5. Dorothy, b. Sept. 29, 1822; md. Jonathan Hapgood.
13 VII. *Deidama*, b. April 19, 1787; md. Silas Ward, *q. v.*
14 VIII. *Tyler*, b. April 8, 1790; d. April 22, 1790.
15 IX. *Sally*, b. April 13, 1791; d. July 18, 1807.
16 X. *Lucinda*, b. Sept. 13, 1794; md. John Boynton of Fitchburg; d. March 27, 1876.
17 XI. *Leonard*, b. March 12, 1797; d. July 26, 1808.

(8) LEONARD MOSSMAN, son of John, md. 1840, Clarinda Richardson, who d. June 7, 1861; md. (2d) Nov. 13, 1862, Lucy Smith, dau. of Joshua Smith, Jr., *q. v.* She d. Dec. 6, 1873. He md. (3d) Mrs. Gates of Westminster. He resided many years in this town and d. in Westminster Sept. 28, 1878.

18 I. *Hollis*, b. Oct., 1852; md. Oct. 5, 1882, Jennie L. Clark, dau. of Luther Clark, *q. v.*

MUNROE.

WILLIAM MUNROE, b. in Scotland 1625, arrived in New England in March, 1652, and in 1657 he is found in Cambridge. He settled in the part of Cambridge that is now within the limits of Lexington and near the line of Woburn. He was admitted freeman 1690, and in 1693 he was one of a committee "to

treat for the purchase of land for the minister." In 1694 he was a selectman, and subsequently he was frequently named in the records in connection with municipal affairs. He md. Martha George, dau. of John and Elizabeth George of Charlestown; she d., leaving four children, about 1671; he md. (2d) Mary Ball, dau. of John Ball of Watertown by whom he had ten children. She d. in Aug., 1692, aged 41; he md. (3d) Elizabeth (Johnson) Wyer, widow of Edward Wyer of Charlestown; she d. Dec. 14, 1715; he d. Jan. 27, 1717–18, aged 92. From his will it appears that fourteen of his children were living in 1716. Susanna the youngest is not named and probably she d. at an early age.

John Munroe, b. March 10, 1666, son of William and Martha (George) Munroe, resided on the homestead in Lexington. He was a constable, assessor, treasurer and selectman, serving in these capacities many years. He was a subscriber for the meeting-house in 1692, and was taxed for the purchase of the ministerial land in 1693. He was employed many years to ring the bell and to sweep the meeting-house. No record of his marriage is preserved. The name of the mother of the younger children and possibly of all of them was Hannah. Jonas Munroe, the eighth of ten children, was bap. Nov. 22, 1707. He md. Jan. 3, 1733–4, Joanna Locke, b. Feb. 2, 1712–13, dau. of Joseph and Margaret (Mead) Locke of Lexington. She d. Sept. 17, 1748; he md. (2d) Rebecca Watts of Chelsea. He was styled Lieut. Jonas Munroe. Among the children of the first wife was Joanna, the wife of John Adams the centenarian, *q. v.*, and of the second wife was Lieut. Ebenezer Munroe of this town, and Martha who. d. here unmd. May 11, 1793.

1 LIEUT. EBENEZER MUNROE, son of Lieut. Jonas Munroe, was b. in Lexington April 29, 1752. An account of his participation in the engagement at Lexington, May 19, 1775, appears on page 177. He md. April 10, 1781, Lucy (Muzzey) Simonds of Woburn. The following year he removed to Ashburnham and settled in the south part of the town. In 1787 he was a lieutenant of the militia and subsequently he was moderator of the annual meeting and a selectman several years. His character was above reproach, and his influence in social and public affairs was constant and salutary. He d. May 25, 1825; his widow md. (2d) John Adams, *q. v.*

2 I. *Charles*, b. Sept. 12, 1781.+

3 II. *Lucy*, b. March 21, 1783; md. Nov. 4, 1802, Daniel Kinsman, b. in Ipswich March 30, 1778, son of Jeremiah and Martha (Andrews) Kinsman. She d. April 3, 1833; he d. in Fitchburg Sept. 15, 1867.

4 1. Louisa, b. May 20, 1803; md. Flint Sheldon of Fitchburg; she resides in this town.

5 2. Lucy, b. Sept. 4, 1804; md. Francis Hinds, *q. v.*; md. (2d) Jonathan P. Wilder, *q. v.*

6 3. Charles M., b. Sept. 3, 1807; md. Hannah R. Smith.

7 4. Cyrus, b. May 2, 1810.

8 5. Martha A., b. Oct. 20, 1814; md. William Perkins; md. (2d) E. J. B. Baker, *q. v.*

9 6. Miranda, b. Sept. 10, 1815; md. Charles R. Foster; reside in Bloomfield, Wis.

10 7. Munroe, b. Jan. 13, 1826; md. Lucy A. Brown; reside in Smithville, N. Y.

11 8. Alfred D., b. Dec. 5, 1820; md. April 3, 1849, Maria C. Houghton; md. (2d) April 27, 1861, Susan Bryant. He has resided in this town several years.

12 1. Frank M., b. Feb. 17, 1854; resides in Courtland, N. Y.

13 III. *Ebenezer*, b. Feb. 25, 1785.+

14 IV. *Jonas*, b. May 27, 1790.+

15 V. *John*, b. Oct. 4, 1793.+

16 VI. *Rebecca*, b. June 7, 1798; md. John Gibson, son of Thomas Gibson, *q. v.*

17 VII. *Herrick*, b. Nov. 1, 1802; d. unmd. Dec. 14, 1844.

(2) CHARLES MUNROE md. June 9, 1808, Lydia Conn, dau. of John Conn, *q. v.* He was a member of the Ashburnham Light Infantry and in the service in the War of 1812. Mr. Munroe resided at the South Village and was one of the pioneer manufacturers of chairs in this town. With this industry intimately associated with the growth and prosperity of Ashburnham he was an influential factor. As a citizen he commanded the respect of his associates. He d. Oct. 26, 1834; his widow d. March 9, 1837.

18 I *Lydia*, b. Aug. 30, 1809; md. June 21, 1832. Sylvester Winship of Westminster; she d. March 21, 1835; he md. (2d) her sister Lucy.

19 1. John S., b. July 22, 1833; d. July 22, 1850.

20 II. *John*, b. Dec. 24, 1812.+

21 III. *Mary Farwell*, b. May 3, 1814; md. Sept. 15, 1833, John Winship; resided in Ashburnham, where he d. Nov. 11, 1879. She d. Dec. 4, 1885.

22 1. Mary Jane, b. Dec. 21, 1834; md. Reuben Bennett.

23 2. Sarah L., b. May 16, 1837; md. Frank Griffin.

24 3. Ellen Susan, b. Oct. 19, 1846; md. 1869, Fred H. Potter; md. (2d) Hazeleus Souck.

25 iv. *Charles*, b. Nov. 19, 1817; removed to State of New York where he d. 1882, leaving a family.
26 v. *Lucy*, b. March 5, 1820, md. July 1, 1840, Sylvester Winship; he d. in this town July 11, 1883; she resides at Central Village.

27 1. Charles M., b. Nov. 15, 1840; d. May 30, 1843.
28 2. Lydia, b. Feb. 27, 1843; md. Capt. Asahel Wheeler, *q. v.*
29 3. Harriet E., b. Oct. 26, 1850.
30 4. Susan M., b. June 10, 1852.

31 vi. *Ivers*, b. May 30, 1823.+
32 vii. *Loring*, b. June 12, 1826.+
33 viii. *Harriet Arvilla*, b. July 20, 1829; md. Sept. 19, 1853, Timothy Addison Tenney; he d. April 17, 1868.

34 1. Lucia J., b. June 23, 1854; md. Joseph Brown.
35 2. Hattie E., b. April 3, 1860.
36 3. Charles H., b. Jan. 23, 1864.

(13) Ebenezer Munroe md. ——, Mary Sargent, b. July 16, 1790, dau. of Samuel and Mary (Vryling) Sargent of Winchendon. He was a soldier in the War of 1812, and resided in this town until about 1830 when he removed to Westminster, where he d. July 31, 1844; his widow d. Sept. 7, 1852.

37 i. *Ebenezer L.*, b. July 3, 1809.
38 ii. *Samuel A.*, b. Sept. 13, 1810.
39 iii. *Mary S.*, b. July 5, 1812; d. March 17, 1834.
40 iv. *Emeline A.*, b. March 27, 1814.
41 v. *Charles H.*, b. May 3, 1816.
42 vi. *Louisa M.*, b. Feb. 2, 1818; d. Sept. 26, 1838.
43 vii. *Joseph W.*, b. April 17, 1820; d. in California.
44 viii. *George A.*, b. May 24, 1823; a physician in St. Louis, Mo., and later in Indian Territory.
45 ix. *Lorenzo*, b. Jan. 29, 1825.
46 x. *John M.*, b. March 10, 1828.
47 xi. *Francis A.*, b. July 1, 1833.
48 xii. *Leander*, b. Dec. 1, 1834; d. July 25, 1858.

(14) Jonas Munroe resided in this town until 1824 when he removed to Rindge. He was an officer of the Light Infantry five years and commanded the company two years after he removed from town. He was a farmer. He md.

May 9, 1815, Eliza Sargent, b. May 10, 1792, dau. of Samuel and Mary (Vryling) Sargent of Winchendon. He d. in Rindge May 9, 1849; she d. Feb. 5, 1849.

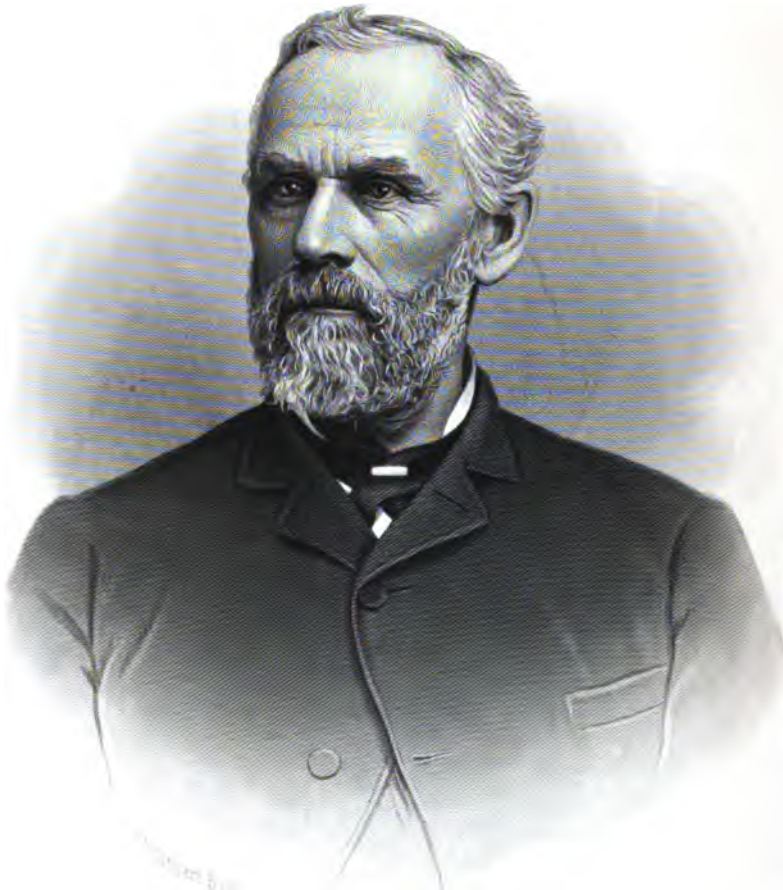
49 I. *Jonas Austin*, b. Feb. 4, 1816; md. 1837, Elizabeth Tibbetts; resided in Chittenango, N. Y., where he d. Sept. 26, 1839.
50 II. *Eliza Darling*, b. April 16, 1818.
51 III. *James Watson*, b. Sept. 30, 1824; md. April 4, 1848, Laurana Crane, dau. of Larra and Sally B. Crane of Boston.
52 IV. *Merrick Adams*, b. Feb. 27, 1828; md. Nov. 2, 1869, Henrietta Mason; resides in Middlebury, Vt.
53 V. *Charles Mavery*, b. Jan. 7, 1831; md. Aug. 15, 1865, Emily A. Higgins.
54 VI. *George Milton*, b. Nov. 4, 1832.+

(15) JOHN MUNROE md. May 6, 1819, Sophia Gibson, dau. of Thomas Gibson, *q. v.* He resided in Ashburnham, Westminster and Cleveland, N. Y.

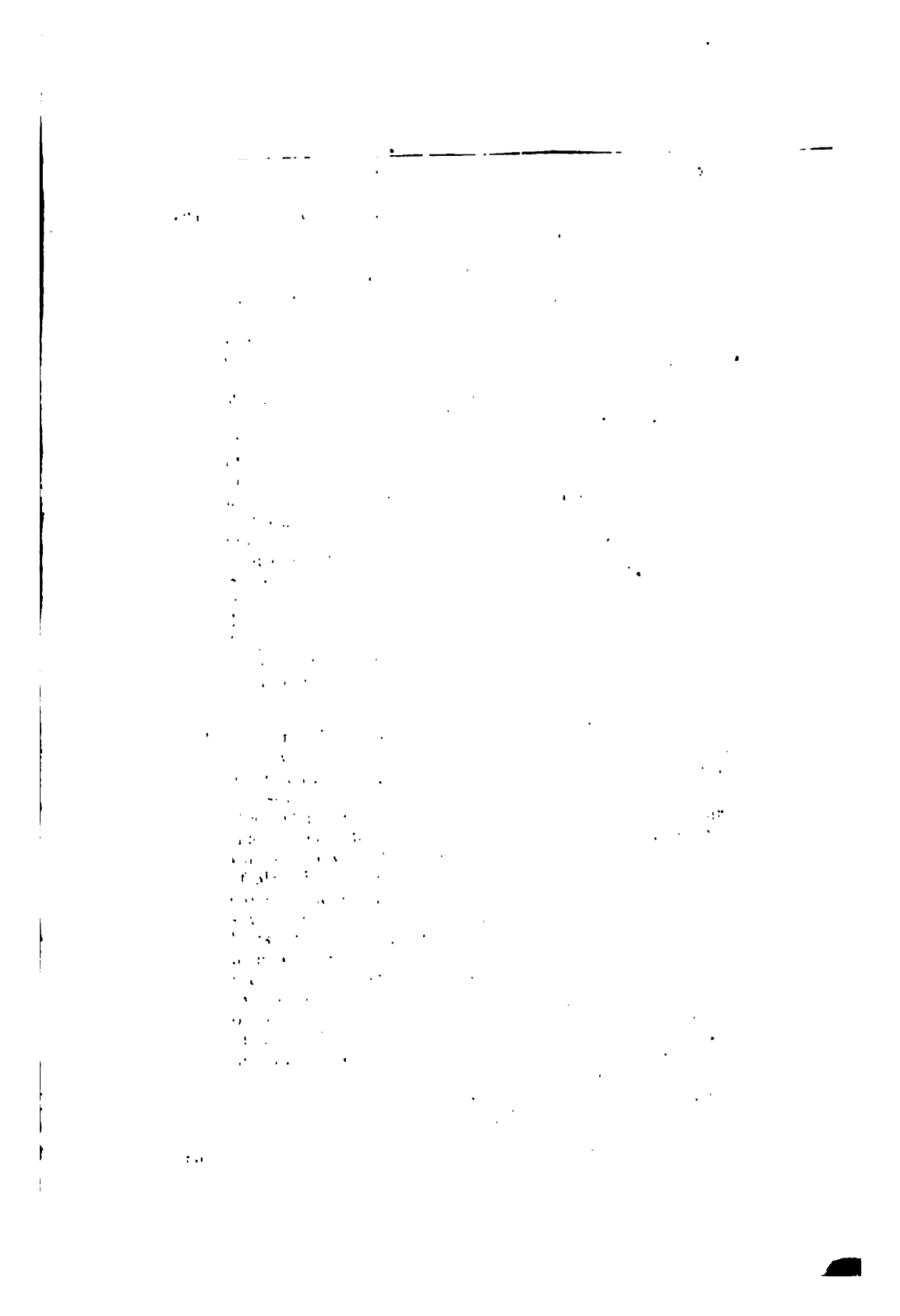
55 I. *Orison J.*, b. Oct. 28, 1819; md. April 24, 1843, Ann E. Newton.
56 II. *Sophia H.*, b. March 27, 1821; md. Feb. 26, 1845, Winchester Wyman.
57 III. *Porter*, b. May 23, 1826; md. July 1, 1845, Harriet Maynard; he d. at Brattleboro', Vt., Oct. 30, 1880.
58 IV. *Sophronia L.*, b. June 4, 1831.

(20) JOHN MUNROE md. 1832, Nancy W. Cushing, dau. of Laban Cushing, *q. v.* She d. Nov. 9, 1845; he md. (2d) Dec. 7, 1846, Martha A. Howland; she d. ——; he md. (3d) July 21, 1864, Lucy M. Wilson of Nelson, N. H. He d. May 7, 1874. His widow resides at South Village.

59 I. *Susan M.*, b. Aug. 18, 1838; md. Rufus Wheeler of Ashby. Two children.
60 II. *James A.*, b. Aug. 17, 1840; d. Aug. 15, 1849.
61 III. *Sarah I.*, b. Feb. 17, 1844.
62 IV. *Charles L.*, b. Sept. 15, 1848; d. Aug. 15, 1849.
63 V. *Mary Jane*, b. May 7, 1851; md. April 8, 1871, George W. Carr of Westminster; reside in Chelsea.
64 VI. *Nellie*, b. ——; md. —— Avery; reside in Malden.
65 VII. *Lucy Rebecca*, b. March 9, 1865.



Loring Munroe





Lucius Brown

(31) IVERS MUNROE resided in this town until 1846, when he removed to Camden, N. Y., and as a student entered the law office of Stephen Cromwell. In Mr. Cromwell he found an able instructor and a generous friend. He was admitted to the bar in 1848 and immediately a partnership was formed, and the increasing business of the office was conducted by Cromwell and Munroe during the ensuing twenty years. These were years of labor and crowned with a generous measure of success. During the Civil War, Mr. Munroe was commissioner of drafts and enrolment of the Twentieth District of New York. From 1848 to 1862 he was actively engaged in the practice of his profession in Iowa, first at Sidney in Tremont county and later at Clinton, the shire of Clinton county. In this field he was promptly recognized as a faithful attorney and a gentleman of character and integrity. He was an alderman in Clinton several years, and occupied a prominent position in professional, business and public affairs. Since 1882 Mr. Munroe has resided in impaired health in Oneida, N. Y. He md. 1845, Lucia S. Gould, dau. of Thomas Gould of Rockingham, Vt.; she d. 1855; he md. (2d) Nancy J. Thomas, dau. of Chaney Thomas of Lee, N. Y.; she d. Oct. 6, 1885. Of seven children only two are living.

(32) LORING MUNROE, at the age of twenty years, removed to Cleveland, N. Y., and there became interested in the manufacture of glass, in which he has been successful. For several years he owned an interest in the American Glass Company at Bernhard's Bay, and in 1861 he purchased the Dunbarton Glass Works at Verona, N. Y., which is now conducted by his sons. The business career of Mr. Munroe has been characterized by industry, sagacious management and executive ability. He has resided several years in Oneida, in the county of Madison, where he is a trustee of the Oneida Savings Bank and an active member of the banking house of Barnes, Stark and Munroe. His interest in the prosperity of the town is attested by the Munroe Block, and of the Opera House he is joint owner with Mr. Barnes. He has occupied many positions of trust and is held in high esteem by his associates. He md. Jane Lowarden who was b. in Baltimore, Md., April 4, 1830. Three sons, George Loring, Charles I. and Anthony B., are living. Three daughters are deceased.

(54) GEORGE M. MUNROE was residing in Boston when he entered the service in the Civil War. *Vide* page 462.

Since the war he resided in Washington, D. C., and in Philadelphia, removing to Ashburnham in 187–. He md. Ann Haliday, b. in Natchez, Miss., May 6, 1840.

66 I. *Josephine A.*, b. July 10, 1866; md. Nov. 8, 1886, John E. Wilson, son of John Wilson, *q. v.*

67 II. *Albert Burnside*, b. July 29, 1869.

1 SAMUEL NICHOLS, with wife Lydia and one child, removed from Harvard 1761. The same year he purchased the mills at Lane Village of Caleb Dana, to whom Nathan Dennis had sold the property. Here Samuel Nichols resided until 1777 when he removed to Walpole, N. H. While he remained in this town he was a prominent citizen.

2 I. *Bethiah*, b. June 29, 1760.

3 II. *Hezekiah*, b. Feb. 19, 1762.

4 III. *Lydia*, b. April 13, 1767.

5 IV. *Mary*, b. Sept. 14, 1770.

6 V. *Lucy*, b. June 20, 1772.

7 JOHN NICHOLS, b. in Charlestown July 4, 1821, md. in Ashburnham Feb. 24, 1845, Arvilla Rice, dau. of Levi Rice, *q. v.* They lived several years in Cambridge, and removed to this town 1865.

8 I. *Frances E.*, b. Aug. 22, 1846; md. Lemuel Ripley.

9 II. *James C.*, b. Jan. 22, 1849; md. Melpha R. Sawin, dau. of Asa Sawin, *q. v.*; reside in Leominster.

10 III. *Charles H.*, b. April 21, 1851; d. Feb. 24, 1871.

11 IV. *Sarah A.*, b. May 31, 1853; md. Frank L. Marble, son of Warren Marble, *q. v.*

12 V. *John D.*, b. Nov. 17, 1857; md. April 24, 1881, Etta C. Skillings, dau. of Seward E. Skillings; reside in Boston.

1 SAMUEL L. NOYES, son of Henry J. and Jane L. (Gates) Noyes, and grandson of Silas and Abiah Noyes of Newburyport, was b. in Gardner June 6, 1837. He md. Nov. 13, 1867, Julia W. Lombard, b. in Westminster Aug. 7, 1844, dau. of Franklin and Eunice (Whitney) Lombard. Mr. Noyes removed to this town from Westminster in 1883, and is engaged in the manufacture of toys on Water street. He is of the board of selectmen.

2 I. *Ernest L.*, b. April 20, 1873.

1 JONAS NUTTING, b. in Westford 1783, son of Thomas and Sybel Nutting, md. Sept. 7, 1805, Mary Spaulding, dau. of James Spaulding, *q. v.* He removed to this town about 1809 and was a farmer on a discontinued road leading north from the "Children of the Woods." He d. April 23, 1842; his widow went to New Ipswich and d. there May 1, 1857.

2 I. *Jonas*, b. 1806; resided in New Ipswich. He was an officer in the 6th New Hampshire Volunteers. He md. 1828, Lucy Sylvester, who d. April 20, 1862. He d. June 20, 1873. Eight children.

3 II. *Sally*, b. Sept. 20, 1808; md. 1834, Ezekiel Nutting; lived in New Ipswich. Four children.

4 III. *Phineas*, b. 1810; d. unmd. 1830.

5 IV. *Hiram*, b. 1813; md. 1833, Asenath Tenney; d. in California. Three children.

6 V. *Mary*, b. 1815; d. Aug. 20, 1816.

7 VI. *John*, b. 1819; md. Cynthia Davis; lived in New Ipswich and in Richmond, N. H., where he d. March 6, 1876. Six children.

OBERLOCK or OVERLACK, *vide* Locke.

PACKARD.

The Packard families of this town are descendants of Robert Packard of Westmoreland, N. H., who was b. about 1760. The emigrant ancestor was Samuel Packard who came from Windham near Hingham, England, in the Diligent 1638, and settled in Hingham. Subsequently he removed to West Bridgewater, where he d. 1684. Among his twelve children was Zaccheus Packard who md. Sarah Howard, dau. of John Howard, and d. 1723. The eldest of his nine children was Israel Packard, b. April 27, 1680; md. 1703 Hannah ——. Of their nine children was Robert Packard b. 1722, and there remains little doubt that he was the father of Robert Packard of Westmoreland, N. H., who md. Feb. 11, 1782, Elizabeth Hudson. Nathan Packard, one of the seven children of Robert and Elizabeth (Hudson) Packard, was b. June 8, 1792. He md. 1815, Celia D. Houghton, dau. of Taylor Houghton of Woodstock, Vt. He resided in Stockbridge and Rutland, Vt.; he d. in Michigan Sept. 1, 1836. Another son of Robert and Elizabeth (Hudson) Packard was Robert, Jr., b. 1798; md. May 11, 1818, Diadema Chamberlain of Stockbridge, Vt.

1 ISRAEL ALFRED PACKARD, b. in Stockbridge, Vt., Sept. 7, 1818, son of Nathan and Celia D (Houghton) Packard, has resided in Ashburnham since 1839. He was a tanner and morocco dresser, but during the past thirty-five years he has been a farmer. He owns and occupies the farm formerly of Ezekiel Metcalf and a part of the Foster farm. He md. Jan. 23, 1840, Frances Caldwell, dau. of John Caldwell, *q. v.* She d. Jan. 1, 1843; he md. (2d) Aug. 3, 1843, Hepsibath C. Lane, dau. of Capt. Francis Lane, *q. v.*

2 i. *Alfred Philander*, b. May 25, 1842; d. July 24, 1842.

3 ii. *Charles Francis*, b. Aug. 12, 1844; md. May 9, 1872, Ardella L. Stearns, dau. of Samuel and Lois B. (Langley) Stearns of Lawrence. He is a millwright, and of the firm of Packard Bros. who own the mills at Lane Village.

4 iii. *Sarah Frances*, b. April 6, 1846; md. Oct. 18, 1870, Andrus Burnham, son of John P. and Emily (Hall) Burnham of Woodstock, Vt.; reside in Westminster.

5 iv. *Susan Rebecca*, b. Aug. 6, 1848; md. Oct. 20, 1868, Augustus A. Scales, son of Aaron and Betsey (Seaver) Scales of Townsend; reside in Minneapolis, Minn.

6 v. *Henry Alfred*, b. Dec. 6, 1852; md. Nov. 3, 1884, Nancy J. Scales, dau. of Aaron and Betsey (Seaver) Scales. He is of the firm of Packard Brothers.

7 vi. *Mina Augusta*, b. Aug. 13, 1856; d. Dec. 17, 1866.

8 Horace C. Packard, b. Aug. 21, 1831, son of Robert, Jr., and Diadema (Chamberlain) Packard, md. Sept. 15, 1853, Philena Howard, b. Jan. 20, 1834, dau. of Josiah Howard of Hinsdale, N. H. He enlisted from Greenfield in Co. C, 27th Regiment, and d. in the service at Newbern, N. C., July 6, 1863. His widow md. (2d) Charles W. Lane, *q. v.*

9 i. *Effie L.*, b. June 20, 1854; md. Charles A. Billings, *q. v.*

10 ii. *Fremont R.*, b. Sept. 7, 1855; md. Oct. 24, 1878, Abbie E. Mather, dau. of James P. and Lucinda (Hadley) Mather; resides at Lane Village.

11 Joseph Packard, who resided in this town from 1856 to 1876, was a son of Joseph Packard of Jamaica, Vt., and a grandson of Robert and Elizabeth (Hudson) Packard of Westmoreland. He md. Asenath Howe; removed to Winchester, N. H., where he now resides.

12 i. *Mary*, b. ——; md. Hosea Esty of Winchendon.

13 ii. *Melinda O.*, b. ——; md. —— Dudley of Warwick.

14 iii. *Andrew J.*, b. ——; resides in Warwick.

15 iv. *Albert D.*, b. ——; md. Esther Bourne; resides on the Oren Willard farm.

1 THOMAS PARK, then of Ashburnham, md. 1779, Abigail Wilder of Lancaster. He was the first in this town to engage in the business of fulling and dressing cloth, and associated with him, or succeeding him for a short time, was Elisha Park. The name disappears from the records about 1800. The fulling mill was taxed to Elisha Park, 1799, and subsequently to Fitch Crosby. Six children of Thomas and Abigail Park were born in this town.

2 I. *Debbe*, b. Nov. 11, 1779.
3 II. *Elizabeth*, b. June 16, 1782.
4 III. *Thomas*, b. Feb. 26, 1785
5 IV. *Daniel*, b. Nov. 5, 1787.
6 V. *Caleb*, b. Nov. 8, 1790.
7 VI. *Susa*, b. Feb. 9, 1793.

PARKER.

NATHAN PARKER, a representative of the Andover family of Parker, was b. in Andover about 1710. He was probably a son of John and a grandson of Nathan, an early settler of Andover. He md. June 26, 1735, Hannah Stevens of Andover, and among their children was John Parker, b. May 19, 1742. He md. Feb. 7, 1771, Abigail Osgood, b. in Andover, dau. of Josiah and Hannah (Kittredge) Osgood and a sister of Col. Benjamin Osgood of Westford. Soon after marriage he removed to Westford, where he d. Dec. 15, 1814; his widow d. June 21, 1820. He was a soldier in the Revolution and was subsequently styled Lieut. John Parker. His daughter Betsey was the wife of Jonathan Bancroft, *q. v.*, and his son, Jacob Osgood Parker, b. in Westford Aug. 19, 1786, md. June 8, 1811, Rachel Reed, b. Aug. 19, 1790, dau. of Amos and Rachel (Prescott) Reed of Westford. He was a merchant in Westford, where he d. March, 1822.

1 JESSE PARKER, son of Jacob Osgood and Rachel (Reed) Parker, was b. in Westford June 16, 1816. His father d. when he was between five and six years of age and he came to this town in 1831. He md. Dec. 6, 1838, Elizabeth Gates, dau. of William Gates, *q. v.* She d. April 8, 1885. He is a chair maker, and has served the town as assessor and selectman.

2 I. *Ellen*, b. Aug. 22, 1839; d. July 15, 1840.
3 II. *Walter Osgood*, b. May 1, 1841. Capt. Walter O. Parker served three years in the Civil War in the 34th Regiment and has been an officer of Co. E or Rice Guards eight years. *Vide* page 439. He is a merchant in Central Village, in firm of Parker Bros. In 1883 he was a representative and has honorably filled other positions of trust. He md. Aug. 23, 1866, Josie M. Whitney, dau. of Hon. Ohio Whitney, *q. v.*

4 III. *Alden Wright*, b. May 29, 1843; md ——, 1873, Isabel L. Lynne of Covington, Ky. They reside in Akron, Ohio.

5 IV. *Frank Hannibal*, b. Feb. 6, 1854; md. Florence O. Merriam, dau. of Philip R. Merriman, Jr., *q. v.* He is a merchant in firm of Parker Bros.

6 NATHANIEL PARKER came to Ashburnham about 1772. His wife Lydia d. May 8, 1776, "aged 30 to 40 years." He md. (2d) Nov. 19, 1776, Hannah Wetherbee. His name is on the roll of Capt. Gates' company 1775. He was occasionally elected to office, and incidentally mentioned in the records until 1783. His name is not found in a tax list of 1787.

7 I. *Lydia*, b. ——; md 1795, Joshua Holden, *q. v.*
8 II. *Caleb*, b. ——.
9 III. *Betty*, b. ——. First three bap. 1776.
10 IV. *Lucy*, b. May 27, 1773.
11 V. *Emerson*, b. June 11, 1779.
12 VI. *Joel*, b. April 22, 1781.
13 VII. *Hannah*, b. Feb. 17, 1783.

14 GEO. G. PARKER, ESQ., b. May 10, 1800, was an able lawyer in this town from 1831 until his death, Dec. 14, 1852. *Vide* page 475. He md. Dec. 26, 1836, Hannah (Hawkins) Woods, widow of Rev. Joseph W. Woods; she d. in Andover, 1881.

15 I. *George H.*, b. Oct. 11, 1838; md. Oct. 8, 1868, Elizabeth Sawyer Mahon, who d. June 14, 1885.
16 II. *Harriette T.*, b. April 14, 1844; md. June 13, 1865, Rev. Asher H. Wilcox of Norwich, Conn.; now residing in Norwich Town, near New London, Conn.

PEIRCE.

The orthography of Pierce and Peirce is a perplexing problem. In the preceding pages the records have been followed and the name occurs in both forms. The two families appearing in the following register were not related. It is probable that both of them, following the general usage of their ancestors, wrote their names Peirce.

THOMAS PEIRCE and wife Elizabeth were in Charlestown 1635. He was b. 1583 and d. in Charlestown Oct. 7, 1666. His will was dated Nov. 6, 1665, and probated in March, 1667. His wife survived him. His son, Thomas Peirce, b. about 1620, settled in Woburn as early as 1643; he md. Elizabeth Cole, dau. of Rice Cole of Charlestown. He was a selectman and prominent in the affairs of Woburn, and was styled "Sargent Thomas Peirce." He d. Nov. 6, 1683; his widow d. March 5, 1687-8. Among their children was Benjamin Peirce, not named by Dr. Savage nor included in list of children

in Sewall's Woburn. He md. Mary Read, dau. of Ralph and Mary (Peirce) Read and a granddau. of Anthony Peirce of Watertown. Among their children was Thomas Peirce. He md. Nov. 5, 1722, Hannah Locke, b. July 11, 1701, dau. of James and Sarah (Cutter) Locke of Woburn. He resided in Leicester and later in Hopkinton, where his wife d.; he md. (2d) Jan. 24, 1743, Lydia Gibbs, and resided in Framingham where he d. 1768. Benjamin Peirce, son of Thomas and Hannah (Locke) Peirce, b. about 1728, md. May 7, 1752, Mary Lamson, b. May 11, 1731, dau. of John Lamson of Weston. He removed to Weston where his ten children were born. Of these, three have resided in Ashburnham.

1 AMOS PEIRCE, son of Benjamin and Mary (Lamson) Peirce, was b. in Weston Aug. 5, 1760. He served six weeks in Rhode Island in the war of the Revolution, and about 1785 he settled in this town in the eighth school district. The farm is known as the Amos Peirce place. He md. March 3, 1789, Hepsibah Smith, b. Oct. 13, 1761, dau. of James and Lucy (Stearns) Smith. He was a selectman and was frequently chosen to other positions in town affairs. He d. Nov. 27, 1834; she d. Jan. 13, 1856.

2 I. *Hepsibah*, b. June 8, 1791; d. unmd.
3 II. *Amos*, b. Aug. 1, 1794; d. unmd. July 18, 1849. He was a farmer and a substantial citizen. *Vide* list of town officers.
4 III. *Lucy*, b. April 8, 1798; d. Oct. 24, 1814.
5 IV. *James*, b. Aug. 20, 1801; resided in Berlin; md. April 7, 1835, Martha W. Warren. He d. Dec. 30, 1872.

6 ASA PEIRCE, brother of Amos, b. in Weston Sept. 21, 1766, md. Oct. 24, 1800, Susannah Willard, dau. of Dea. John Willard, *q. v.* In the autumn of 1806 they removed, with three children, to Mt. Holly, Vt., where he d. soon after 1836; she d. May 28, 1808.

7 I. *Martin*, b. Nov. 20, 1801.
8 II. *Mason* (twin), b. Nov. 20, 1801.
9 III. *Osborn*, b. Dec. 18, 1803.
10 IV. *Elijah Willard*, b. Sept. 28, 1806; md. 1831, Betsey Warner of Mt. Holly.

11 CALEB PEIRCE, a brother of Amos and Asa Peirce, b. in Weston Feb. 27, 1763, was taxed in this town 1787. No tax lists for a few preceding and subsequent years are preserved. When he removed from town is uncertain. He md. 1787, Nabby Felton.

PEIRCE.

JOHN PEIRCE, a weaver from the county of Norfolk, England, settled in Watertown in 1637. He was admitted freeman 1638 and d. Aug. 19, 1661; his wife Elizabeth survived him. His son, Anthony Peirce, b. in England 1609, was in Watertown before the arrival of his father, John Peirce. He was admitted freeman Sept. 3, 1634; he was twice married and d. May 9, 1678. Daniel Peirce, the fifth child of Anthony Peirce, b. Jan. 1, 1639–40, md. Elizabeth —— and settled in Groton, where five of his nine children were born. In 1681 he returned to Watertown where he d. 1723. Ephraim Peirce, son of Daniel, b. Oct. 15, 1673, md. Mary Whitney, b. July 1, 1675, dau. of Joshua Whitney of Groton and Watertown. He was one of the early settlers of Lunenburg where he was a selectman 1728. He d. Feb. 27, 1740; his widow d. Dec. 29, 1749. Their third child and eldest son was Ephraim Peirce, b. Nov. 12, 1700; md. Oct. 30, 1721, Esther Shedd, b. March 21, 1704, dau. of Samuel Shedd; she d. June 28, 1768; he md. (2d) Huldah (Martyn) Wetherbee, dau. of Thomas Martyn and widow of Hezekiah Wetherbee. He was a deacon and a prominent citizen of Lunenburg where he d. 1781. Oliver Peirce, son of Ephraim and Esther (Shedd) Peirce, b. July 17, 1741, md. May 19, 1768, Mary Smith, b. 1751. He was a farmer in Lunenburg where he d. March 6, 1815; his widow d. 1827. Of their seven children, the fifth child and fourth son was Nathaniel Peirce, b. Oct. 8, 1778, for many years a physician in Ashburnham. John Peirce, a brother of Dr. Nathaniel, was b. Sept. 18, 1787; md. Nov. 28, 1816, Esther Smith, who d. March 10, 1830; md. (2d) July 13, 1831, Sarah T. Smith, who d. May 27, 1860. He was a farmer in Lunenburg where he d. Nov. 12, 1867. Nathaniel Peirce, a resident of this town, is a son of John and Esther (Smith) Peirce.

1 DR. NATHANIEL PEIRCE, b. in Lunenburg Oct. 8, 1778, d. in Ashburnham Sept. 3, 1862. *Vide* page 468. He md. Jan. 11, 1807, Judith Kendall, who was b. June 21, 1778; d. Aug. 27, 1828; md. (2d) April 18, 1832, Zebiah G. Smallpeace; she was b. Dec. 26, 1785; d. June 2, 1843; md. (3d) Oct. 16, 1844, Visa (Clark) Knight, b. April 4, 1791, d. Feb. 13, 1883.

2 I. *Joseph B.*, b. June 9, 1809; d. March 6, 1818.

3 NATHANIEL PEIRCE, son of John and Esther (Smith) Peirce, was b. in Lunenburg March 20, 1824. At the age of eight years he came to this town and lived with Dr. Nathaniel Peirce, his uncle, whose estate was bequeathed to him. He md. Sept. 23, 1874, Melinda C. Willard, dau. of John Willard, *q. v.*

1 JOSEPH PERRY, wife Mary and four children removed from Medway 1765. His name appears on the roll of Capt. Davis company of minute-men, but soon after that date no subsequent mention of the name appears on the records except the marriage of a dau.

2 I. *Joseph*, b. ——.

3 II. *Mary*, b. ——.

4 iii. *Abigail*, b. ——.
5 iv. *Anna*, b. ——; md John Holden, *q. v.*
6 v. *Hannah*, b. Nov. 15, 1767.
7 vi. *Levi*, b. Feb. 24, 1770.
8 vii. *Dolly*, b. June 3, 1772.
9 viii. *Simeon*, b. April 20, 1774.
10 ix. *Sally*, b. Feb. 18, 1776.

1 John Petts, lineage not traced, md. in this town Nov. 22, 1794, Relief Pollard, dau. of William Pollard, *q. v.* He resided a farmer in this town. His wife d. Feb. 17, 1843. His death is not on record and only a fragmentary record of his children has been secured.

2 i. *John*, b. March 19, 1795.+
3 ii. *Relief*, b. May 8, 1796; md James Billings, *q. v.*
4 iii. *Abel*, b. ——.
5 iv. *Mary*, b. ——; md. Joshua Turner; resided in Cambridgeport.
6 v. *Lucy*, b. ——; md. James Gibson. He d. in Leominster; she d. in Charlestown.
7 vi. *Nancy Maria*, b. ——; md. John A. Conn, *q. v.*
8 vii. *Harriet*, b. ——; md. Horace Black, *q. v.*
9 viii. *Horace*, b. ——.
10 ix. *Joseph*, b. ——.

(2) Dr. John Petts for many years was an able and successful physician at Nichols, N. Y. He retired from practice and removed to Ashburnham 1844. During the waning years of a prolonged and useful life, he had a home with his children in Springfield, Ohio, where he d. Jan. 1, 1887. He md. in Surry, N. H., Jan. 11, 1825, Phebe Howe, dau. of Rev. Perley and Lemiah (Barnes) Howe. She d. April 23, 1877.

11 i. *Sarah B.*, b. 1827; md. Edwin L. Barrett, son of Samuel Barrett, *q. v.*
12 ii. *Eliza H.*, b. 1829; d. 1847.
13 iii. *Charles H.*, b. 1831; md. 1862, Emily Clark, dau. of Hon. Oliver Clark. He d. in Boston 1866.
14 iv. *Maria J.*, b. June 5, 1837; md. Charles E. Sawyer, son of Edward Sawyer, *q. v.*
15 v. *Quincy A.*, b. April 25, 1841; md. Oct. 21, 1863, Lavinia Grant, dau. of William and Nancy M. Grant. He removed from Ashburnham to Kansas in 1857 and to Springfield, Ohio, in 1860. In the war of the Rebellion he served in the Second Ohio Regiment. He was associate

editor of the *Springfield Republic* 1864–71, and editor of the *Mechanical News* 1871–5. He was auditor of Clark county, Ohio, 1875–81, and is now editor of the *Mechanical News* of New York, with a residence in Jersey City.

PHILLIPS.

Seth Phillips, son of Blaney and Christian (Wadsworth) Phillips, was b. in Pembroke, now Hanson, in Plymouth county, about 1750. He was one of the minute-men at the Lexington alarm, and was subsequently a lieutenant in the Revolutionary army. About 1780, he md. Betty Hamlin, a sister of the father of Hon. Hannibal Hamlin, and removed to Fitchburg. Of their children Samuel, Asia, John and Lydia, the wife of Jacob Fairbanks, were residents of this town.

1 Samuel Phillips, son of Seth and Betty (Hamlin) Phillips, b. in Fitchburg Sept. 11, 1781. He md. Nov. 3, 1803, Sally Thurston, b. April 5, 1783, dau. of Dea. John and Esther (Wood) Thurston. In 1804 he purchased the Wilder farm and removed to this town. This farm had been owned by Samuel Wilder, Esq., between thirty and forty years. It was here that Rev. John Cushing lived in the family of Mr. Wilder, until he began housekeeping on the old common. It is a pleasant homestead, commanding an extensive view of the surrounding country. The widow retained her dower in the homestead and occupied a portion of the dwelling and extensive farm. On this farm Samuel Phillips resided until 1820, when he sold to his brothers Asia and John, and removed to Fitchburg. He d. in Worcester 1842; his widow d. 1848. Two children were born in this town.

2 i. *Ivers*, b. July 28, 1805.+

3 ii. *Sally*, b. July 29, 1811; md. Charles Russell, son of Thomas Russell, *q. v.*

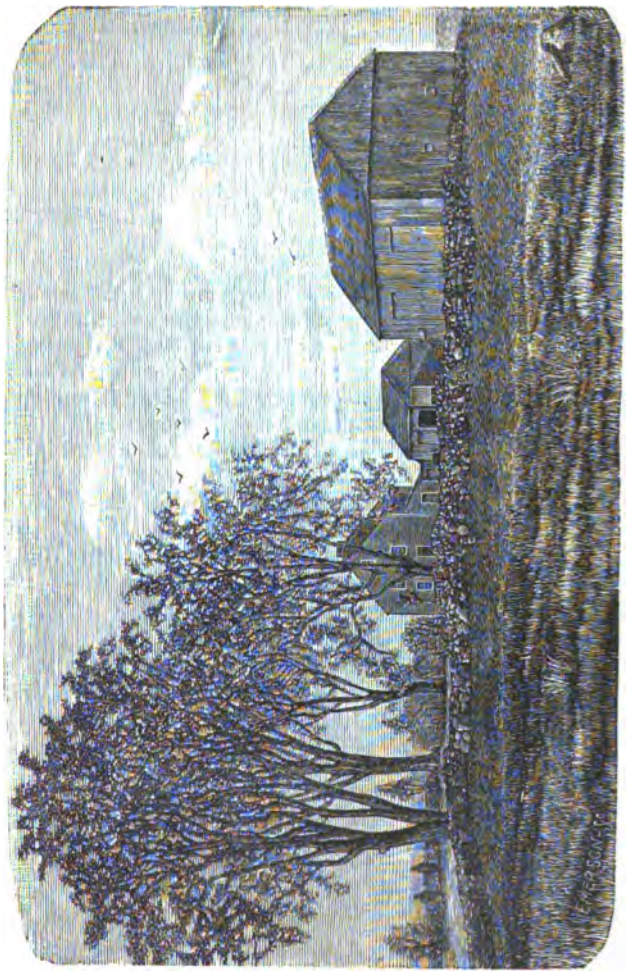
(2) Col. Ivers Phillips, the only son of Samuel and Sally (Thurston) Phillips, was b. in Ashburnham July 28, 1805. After a brief tuition in the public schools of Ashburnham and of Fitchburg he was early enlisted in the activities of an eventful and successful career. For many years he resided in Fitchburg and later in Worcester. At the age of twenty-eight years he was appointed a deputy sheriff and a coroner. The former office he resigned in 1850 and the latter in 1856. To the railroad interests of Worcester county he was allied for many years, and to his energy and prudent counsels these corporations were indebted. He was an early advocate of the Vermont and Massachusetts Railroad and an early director of the corporation.





Ivers Phillips

At the organization of the Fitchburg and Worcester Railroad he was chosen a director, and was the second president of the board, succeeding Dr. Charles W. Wilder of Leominster, another native of this town. Subsequently he was a director and president of the Agricultural Railroad,



THE WILDER HOMESTEAD AND BIRTHPLACE OF COL. IVERS PHILLIPS.

now a part of the Old Colony, and also of the Boston, Barre and Gardner Railroad, now operated by the Fitchburg Railroad. In these positions he was continuously employed about thirty years. In 1853 he was a member

of the Massachusetts Senate, and from 1862 to 1869 he was Collector of Internal Revenue of the Eighth Massachusetts district.

In military affairs Col. Phillips was an enthusiast and won honors at an early age. In 1827 he was commissioned a lieutenant. His promotion was rapid. In 1834, under a radical revision of the militia law, the officers were discharged. At this time he was colonel of the regiment. On account of the sickness of Col. Lincoln he first commanded the regiment in 1831, when holding the commission of lieutenant-colonel. Under the amended militia system of the State, the Volunteer companies in the northern towns of Worcester county constituted a regiment. He was then commissioned colonel of the new organization. Declining promotion he resigned May 26, 1835, having been an officer eight years, and not yet thirty years of age.

In the midst of these employments, Col. Phillips has been engaged in many business enterprises and has been prominent in the direction of several business and monetary organizations. In positions of trust and in business affairs, in an eminent degree, he has secured the confidence and respect of his associates.

In 1873 he removed to Boulder, Colorado, and is now a director of several railroads in that State.

Col. Phillips md. in Fitchburg Nov. 13, 1828, Rebecca Carter, b. in Leominster Feb. 13, 1803, dau. of Thomas Carter. She d. July 2, 1867; he md. (2d) Jan. 19, 1869, Abbie Rebecca (Richardson) Haines, dau. of Dr. Sewell Richardson of Leominster.

4 i. *Mary Ann*, b. Sept. 24, 1829.

5 ii. *Ivers Carter*, b. July 9, 1831; md. Dec. 31, 1853, Harriet Frances Walker of Goffstown, N. H. He d. March 5, 1877.

6 iii. *Harriet Rebecca*, b. July 6, 1833; md. Nov. 29, 1855, Edwin D. Works, son of Daniel Works of Fitchburg; she d. Feb. 27, 1878.

7 iv. *Sarah Thurston*, b. April 22, 1836; md. April 22, 1857, Gardner P. Wood of Temple, N. H.; she d. Nov. 26, 1872.

8 v. *Abbie Louisa*, b. Nov. 20, 1839; md. May 24, 1871, Albert B. Lawrence, son of Daniel B. Lawrence of Brimfield. He is manager and partner of the hardware house of A. B. Lawrence & Co., Fitchburg.

9 Asia Phillips, a brother of Samuel Phillips, resided in this town from 1812 to about 1830. He was a member

of the Ashburnham Light Infantry and was in the service at Boston Harbor in the War of 1812. He md. 1820, Sally S. Dwelly, dau. of Dr. Melzer and Sally (Smith) Dwelly and a granddau. of Joshua Smith, Esq., *q. v.* Their children d. in infancy.

10 JOHN PHILLIPS, brother of Samuel and Asia Phillips, returned to Fitchburg after a brief residence in this town. Subsequently he removed to Northampton.

PIPER.

JONATHAN PIPER, wife Elizabeth and two children removed from Acton to Ashby in April, 1783. Eight children were b. in Ashby. Among these was Philip Piper. b. July 12, 1785. He md. 1810, Rhoda Richardson and lived in Ashby. He d. April 10, 1858; she d. Sept. 14, 1874.

1 JONATHAN HUBBARD PIPER, son of Philip and Rhoda (Richardson) Piper, was b. in Ashby Feb. 26, 1816. He came to the South Village to learn the trade of chair maker in 1834, and resided in this town until 1870 when he removed to Fitchburg. For several years he was engaged in the manufacture of chairs in the firm of Flint, Piper & Blodgett. He md. June 29, 1836, Caroline Burgess, dau. of Joshua B. Burgess, *q. v.* She d., leaving three children, May 23, 1847. He md. (2d) March 28, 1848, S. Elizabeth Jones, b. in Lunenburg Feb. 11, 1828, dau. of Major Ephraim and Jemima (Barrett) Jones.

2 I. *Alfred*, b. Jan. 15, 1838.
3 II. *Fannie E.*, b. Dec. 27, 1843.
4 III. *Hobart W.*, b. June 17, 1845; he served two enlistments in the War of the Rebellion.
5 IV. *Carrie Lizzie*, b. June 9, 1852; d. Aug. 30, 1853.
6 V. *Nettie Lizzie*, b. July 15, 1855.

PLATTS.

ABEL PLATTS, the first settler of Rindge, and a prominent character in the annals of that town, was a son of Moses Platts and a grandson of Lieut. Abel Platts of Rowley, who was an officer in the Expedition to Canada, 1690. Abel Platts of Rindge was b. in Rowley Feb. 6, 1703. He md. April 21, 1725, Mary Varnum, and removed to Lunenburg 1738. At this time he began a clearing in Rindge, and for several years he resided in Lunenburg and in Rindge until the Indian alarms were quieted. In 1751 he settled permanently upon the clearing he had made in the forest. He d. July 23, 1777. Ensign Joseph Platts, his son, was b. in Rowley 1726, and was the companion of his father in his early labors in Rindge. He md. Nov. 16, 1752, Deborah Page, b. April 11, 1733, dau. of Joseph and Deborah (Gould) Page. He d. in Rindge Aug. 25, 1817. His son, Capt. Joseph Platts, b. in Rindge 1755, md. March 24, 1778, Abigail Sawtell, b. June 27, 1758, dau. of Jonathan and Mary (Holden) Sawtell of Rindge. He d. March 29, 1799.

John Varnum Platts, son of Capt. Joseph Platts, b. April 22, 1786, also resided in Rindge. He md. May 2, 1811, Maria Demary, b. 1791, dau. of Ezekiel and Maria (Parker) Demary. He d. May 6, 1839; she d. Feb. 4, 1834. These are the parents of John Varnum Platts of Ashburnham.

1 JOHN VARNUM PLATTS, son of John Varnum and Maria (Demary) Platts, was b. in Rindge March 10, 1813. He md. 1840, Louisa D. Bill of Gilsum, N. H., and removed to this town 1849. He was superintendent of the almshouse several years, and is now a farmer. His wife d. Jan. 20, 1872; he md. (2d) June, 1872, Augusta Whitcomb of Winchendon.

2 I. *Maria A.*, b. Nov. 19, 1841; md. Orange E. Howe, *q. v.*

3 II. *Irving E.*, b. Feb. 4, 1845; md. Aug. 2, 1868, Ellen M. Lynde, b. in Westminster July 1, 1849, dau. of John and Lucy Lynde. He is a manufacturer of chairs at South Village.

4 III. *Jerome A.*, b. Jan. 25, 1851; resides unmd. in this town.

1 WILLIAM POLLARD with a family removed to this town in 1770 or 1771. He md. about 1760, Hannah Whitcomb of Harvard. He was a respected citizen and was frequently chosen to positions of trust. Five children were born in this town. It is possible that of the children born previous to 1771 all are not named in this register. He d. May 10, 1808; she d. Feb. 27, 1828.

2 I. *Sarah*, b. 1762; d. Oct. 17, 1778.

3 II. *Kezia*, b. ——; md. Capt. Daniel Putnam, *q. v.*

4 III. *Hannah*, b. ——; md. 1794, Joseph Howard of Westminster.

5 IV. *Achsah*, b. Aug. 29, 1771; md. Stephen Bemis, *q. v.*

6 V. *William*, b. April 1, 1773.

7 VI. *Relief*, b. June 2, 1775; md. John Petts, *q. v.*

8 VII. *Molly*, b. Feb. 17, 1777; md. Joshua Billings, Jr.

9 VIII. *Jonas*, b. March 5, 1779.

10 WILLIAM POLLARD, not a relative of William Pollard (No. 1), md. April 20, 1819, Lucy Davis, dau. of Amos Davis, *q. v.* He was a farmer in this town until 1848, when he removed to Rindge. He d. July 17, 1872; his wife d. Feb. 14, 1867.

11 I. *Almira Griffin*, b. July 17, 1820; md. Lemuel Whitney, *q. v.*

12 II. *Lucy Spaulding*, b. Sept. 25, 1822; md. Leonard Lane, *q. v.*
13 III. *Sally Davis*, b. March 7, 1828; d. Nov. 25, 1833.
14 IV. *Susan Abigail*, b. Dec. 25, 1831.
15 V. *William H.*, b. Aug. 20, 1837.
16 VI. *Ivers E.*, b. Oct 10, 1842.

1 JACOB POLLEY md. Desire Flint, and removed to the southeast part of the town about 1785. He was a prominent character in the effort to secure the incorporation of a new town, including a part of Ashburnham, Westminster, Fitchburg and Ashby. About 1816, he removed to Acworth, N. H. Nine children were b. in this town.

2 I. *Peter*, b. May 14, 1786; d. Aug. 23, 1806.
3 II. *Amos*, b. Feb. 6, 1788.
4 III. *Dorcas*, b. Nov. 26, 1789; md. Reuben Rice, Jr., *q. v.*
5 IV. *Jacob*, b. Jan. 25, 1792; md. Lois Gibson of Ashby.
6 V. *Desire*, b. May 9, 1794.
7 VI. *Gertrude*, b. Dec. 22, 1796; md. Moses Cushing, *q. v.*
8 VII. *David*, b. Nov. 22, 1798.
9 VIII. *Flint*, b. Sept 20, 1801.
10 IX. *Mary Graves*, b. Oct. 7, 1804.

1 HARTFORD POTTER, son of Bennett Potter, was b. in Walpole, N. H., Dec. 21, 1811. He md. Nov. 14, 1837, Thurza M. Marvin; md. (2d) May 7, 1865, Abigail (Stone) Whitney, widow of Stephen P. Whitney. He resided in Templeton several years, and removed to this town in 1866. He owns and occupies the Perley Howe farm, near South Village.

2 I. *Henry M.*, b. Aug. 26, 1838; he is a merchant in Newark, N. J.
3 II. *Hester A. R.*, b. June 17, 1844; md. William H. White of Grafton.
4 III. *Frederick H.*, b. Feb. 20, 1849; md. Sept. 28, 1869, Ellen S. Winship (Munroe 15); he d. Oct. 27, 1869.
5 IV. *Florence M.*, b. June 24, 1866.

PRATT.

EPHRAIM PRATT is found in Shrewsbury as early as 1724. Concerning the date of his birth and consequently of his age at his decease there has been a difference of opinion. It is claimed with a reasonable measure of

assurance that he was a son of Ephraim and Elizabeth Pratt of Sudbury and a grandson of Joshua Pratt, b. in England 1598, and of Plymouth 1628, and that he was b. in Sudbury Nov. 30, 1704. In other accounts it has been asserted that he was b. Nov. 13, 1687. He d. in Shutesbury in May, 1804. His age consequently was 99 years and 6 months, or 116 years and 6 months. He. md. July 9, 1724, Martha Wheelock, b. 1698, dau. of Samuel and Lydia Wheelock of Marlboro', and later of Shrewsbury. Among their eight children was Ephraim Pratt, Jr., b. Feb. 7, 1728. He md. in Shrewsbury Oct. 10, 1752, Abiah Leland. About 1774 he removed to Westminster and, subsequently, at the incorporation of Gardner, his house was included within the limits of that town, and the farm was divided by the town line. He d. July 23, 1815; his wife d. Oct. 25, 1813. Their nine children were b. in Shrewsbury. Of these the youngest was Aaron Pratt, b. Feb. 12, 1771. He md. Betsey Warren and resided in Gardner where his eight children were b. and where he d. July 15, 1812; his widow d. Sept. 3, 1831. William Pratt, son of Aaron and Betsey (Warren) Pratt, resided some years in this town. John Pratt, brother of William, b. in Gardner Aug. 2, 1804, md. Feb. 28, 1840, Eliza French, dau. of Joel French, *q. v.* He resided a short time in Marlboro', N. H., where he was an innholder. Subsequently he removed to Weathersfield, Vt., and was there a prominent citizen. He d. ——; his wife d. Feb. 28, 1840. Capt. Charles H. Pratt, who md. a daughter of George G. Samson, is a son of Russell Pratt of Westminster, a younger son of Aaron and Betsey (Warren) Pratt.

1 WILLIAM PRATT, b. in Gardner Jan. 2, 1811, son of Aaron and Betsey (Warren) Pratt, md. —— Sarah Matthews and removed to this town about 1844. He d. Nov. 30, 1850; his wife d. Oct. 15, 1850.

2 I. *Aaron*, b. 1831; md. 1857, Mary W. Morton, dau. of John D. Morton, *q. v.* He d. June 19, 1867.

3 II. *Otis*, b. ——; md. 1855, Mary E. Bixby, dau. of Joel R. Bixby, *q. v.*; d. May 9, 1880.

4 III. *Sarah*, b. March 23, 1836; d. Sept. 3, 1850.

5 IV. *Joel*, b. ——; md. Abbie Brooks of Westminster; lives in Leominster.

6 V. *William*, b. 1843; md. Jan. 3, 1864, Julia Newell of Springfield; lives in Gardner.

7 VI. *Eliza*, b. Nov. 8, 1845; md. 1867, Benjamin Brown of Gardner.

8 VII. *Walter*, b. Feb. 28, 1846; md. 1871, Anna Wright of Gardner; lives in Gardner.

9 JOHN M. PRATT, son of John and Eliza (French) Pratt, was b. in Weathersfield, Vt., Dec. 1, 1828. He md. Sept. 15, 1854, Sarah F. Ward, dau. of Silas Ward, *q. v.*, and has resided since his marriage in the South Village, where he has been engaged in the manufacture of baskets. He has been a Selectman and Overseer of the Poor several years.

10 I. *Herbert A.*, b. March 28, 1867.

1 CLARENCE M. PROCTOR, son of William and Betsey (Thompson) Proctor, was b. in Andover, N. H., Oct. 23, 1816. He removed to this town in 1840 and was an officer in the Ashburnham Light Infantry. He md. Nov. 9, 1842, Mary S. Dexter who d. ——; md. (2d) June 6, 1855, Armina A. Proctor of Franklin, N. H.

2 I. *Clarence D.*, b. Aug. 27, 1843; md. Nov. 25, 1869, Hattie A. Sylvester, b. Dec. 26, 1843; d. Sept. 10, 1875. He is a farmer in this town.

3 II. *Murray W.*, b. Dec. 31, 1845; d. Aug. 7, 1847.

4 III. *Evelyn M.*, b. July 30, 1848; d. June 12, 1877.

5 IV. *Betsey J.*, b. Dec. 12, 1851; d. Aug. 26, 1853.

1 REUBEN PUFFER, son of Jacob and Hannah (Haynes) Puffer, was b. in Ashby Aug. 14, 1810. He has resided in this town with little interruption during the past fifty years. He is a contractor and builder and is engaged in the manufacture of sash and blinds. He md. Nov. 27, 1834, Martha Piper who d. Nov. 13, 1848; he md. (2d) June 2, 1849, Esther Aldrich; she d. Dec. 6, 1883.

2 I. *Charles Henry*, b. Jan. 1, 1836; md. 1855, Lois I. Goodwin, dau. of Matthew E. Goodwin, *q. v.* He was a veteran of the 21st Regiment; died in the service May 1, 1864; she md. (2d) Alvaro Foster.

3 II. *George F.*, b. March 24, 1838; md. Feb. 22, 1864, Lois M. Burgess, dau. of Ivers Burgess, *q. v.* He was a veteran of the 21st Regiment; he d. in Lynn Oct 22, 1866.

4 III. *Eugene A.*, b. Jan. 26, 1840; md. May 14, 1868, Mary A. Dalrymple, b. in Gardner March 8, 1844, dau. of John Dalrymple. He served in the 21st Regiment and was discharged on account of wounds March 27, 1863.

5 IV. *Helen M.*, b. May 17, 1842; md. George E. Davis, son of George Davis, *q. v.*

6 V. *Sarah E.*, b. July 25, 1844; md. Orlando Vaughn of Fitchburg.

7 VI. *Abbie M.*, b. April 26, 1846; d. unmd. Sept. 3, 1882.

8 VII. *Reuben A.*, b. Sept. 11, 1851; md. Sarah Shepherd; resides in Worcester.

9 VIII. *Martha A.*, b. April 24, 1854; md. J. Quincy Willard, son of Merrick Willard, *q. v.*

10 IX. *Franklin E.*, b. Sept. 25, 1857; d. Sept. 2, 1858.

11 X. *Lillie F.*, b. June 9, 1861; d. Sept. 14, 1862.

12 XI. *Walter O.*, b. June 11, 1865.

PUTNAM.

The lineage of John, Nathan and Capt. Daniel Putnam, once residents of this town, has not been traced. They were brothers and sons of John Putnam of Danvers and Framingham. Salmon W. Putnam, No. 7 in the following register, was of the seventh generation of his family in America. The emigrant ancestor was John Putnam from Aston Abbott, near Aylesbury, in the county of Bucks, England. With wife Priscilla and sons, Thomas, Nathaniel and John, he settled in Salem 1634. John, the father, d. Dec. 30, 1662. Thomas, the eldest son, b. in England probably in 1610, resided a few years in Lynn, but returned to Salem where he d. May 5, 1686. He md. Oct. 17, 1643, Ann Holyoke, dau. of Edward Holyoke; md. (2d) the widow of Nathaniel Veren. Joseph Putnam, a son of the second marriage, was the father of Gen. Israel Putnam. Dea. Edward Putnam, a son of the first wife, b. 1654, md. June 4, 1681, Mary Holten and resided in a part of Salem now in Danvers. He d. 1747. Elisha Putnam, son of Dea. Edward, b. Nov. 3, 1685, md. Susannah Fuller, dau. of Jonathan Fuller of Danvers and removed to Sutton where he d. 1745; his widow md. (2d) Capt. John Sadler of Upton. Of the children of Elisha and Susanna (Fuller) Putnam, were Col. Rufus Putnam of Revolutionary fame and John Putnam who was b. in Sutton.

1 JOHN PUTNAM md. in Marlboro' 1771, Molly Baker, b. in Marlboro' Aug. 20, 1747, dau. of Robert Baker. In 1775 they removed to Ashburnham and his name is on the roll of Capt. Davis company of minute-men. He was here in 1779 but removed soon after that date to Chester, Vt.

2 I. *Jesse*, b. July 31, 1772.
3 II. *Robert*, b. June 25, 1774.
4 III. *Infant*, b. 1776; d. Oct. 3, 1778.

5 NATHAN PUTNAM, a brother of John and Capt. Daniel, was here while John remained. The name of his wife was Dorothy. He removed to Stow.

6 I. *Daniel*, bap. July 16, 1775; d. Sept. 23, 1777.
7 II. *Dolly*, bap. May 18, 1777.

8 CAPT. DANIEL PUTNAM, b. in Sudbury Sept. 25, 1755, son of John Putnam, came to Ashburnham in 1774 or 1775. He served one enlistment in Capt. Sawyer's company in Col. Dike's regiment in 1776, and possibly rendered other service. After the war he was a captain of the militia and a prominent man in business affairs. He bought and sold land in this and the surrounding towns, and his familiar name appears frequently in the records of his time. He md. March 18, 1777, Elizabeth Locke, dau. of John Locke or Overlack, *q. v.*; she d. Aug. 8, 1776; he md. (2d) Nov. 29, 1787, Kezia Pollard, dau. of William Pollard, *q. v.* In 1798 he removed to Winchendon, and in 1810 to Windham, Vt., where he d.

Oct. 21, 1819. So far as known there were seventeen children but no record has been found. Levi, the third of the five children of the first wife, d. June 3, 1796, and Elizabeth d. in infancy. The names of the children were: John, who resided in Williamstown, Daniel, Levi, Jacob, Elizabeth, William, Silas, Jonas, Abel, Mary, Josephine, Laura, Myra, Pliny, Elmira, Resina and Aurilla.

9 SALMON W. PUTNAM, son of John and Mary (Hodgskins) Putnam, was b. in Hopkinton Dec. 10, 1815. He came to Ashburnham early in 1837 and for a short time, in connection with his elder brother John Putnam, was engaged in business at Factory Village. Subsequently he lived in Fitchburg. In the establishment of the Putnam Machine Co., in the conduct of an extensive business, his life and labors fill an eventful and an interesting page in the annals of a prosperous city. He occupied with credit many positions of trust, was a director in several monetary institutions and thoroughly identified with the growth and prosperity of the town and the city of Fitchburg. He md. March 10, 1840, Harriet J. Whitney, dau. of Ohio Whitney, *q. v.* He d. Feb. 23, 1872. Nine children. The sons have succeeded to the general management of the corporation and have frequently been elected to positions in municipal affairs.

10 I. *Henry O.*, b. Jan. 4, 1841; md. Sept. 29, 1859, Sarah A. Smith.

11 II. *Salmon W.*, b. Oct. 15, 1843; md. Jan. 22, 1873, Emma J. Park.

12 III. *Charles F.*, b. Aug. 5, 1845; md. Oct. 16, 1872, Coralie J. Lawrence; she d. July 5, 1881.

13 IV. *Harriet E.*, b. May 5, 1848; md. Oct. 18, 1871, Loring Sears.

14 V. *William D.*, b. Sept. 20, 1851; d. Aug. 19, 1852.

15 VI. *George E.*, b. Oct. 14, 1854; an attorney and counsellor-at-law; unmd.

16 VII. *Laura J.*, b. Sept. 4, 1856; md. March 30, 1880, Rev. S. J. Stewart; she resides in Fitchburg.

17 VIII. *Mary Adelaide I.*, b. Oct. 8, 1858; md. Oct. 12, 1882, Edward S. Crocker.

18 IX. *Marion M.*, b. Nov. 15, 1861.

RANDALL.

Several families of Randall were among the early settlers of New England. Many problems concerning the relationship of persons whose general history is known, and the line of separation between distinct families remain to be solved. It is, however, more than probable that the Randalls of Stow

were descendants of widow Elizabeth Randall who d. in Watertown Dec. 24, 1672, aged 80. It is certain that Stephen Randall of Ashburnham was of the Stow family. One Stephen Randall was rated in Stow 1688, and it is claimed that he had sons Stephen, Samuel, John and Abraham. It is clear that as yet the Stephen Randall of Ashburnham has not been named. The traditions of the Ashburnham family assert that Stephen of Ashburnham was the son of Stephen and grandson of the Stephen who was rated 1688. In support of the tradition the record of birth is not found, but between 1734 and 1750 seven children of Samuel and Priscilla Randall were b. in Stow. Of these the eldest was Stephen Randall, b. Jan. 31, 1734, and until new discoveries present a denial, the assumption may be regarded with considerable assurance that it is this Stephen Randall whose record is continued in the following register.

1 STEPHEN RANDALL, then a resident of Stow, md. 1757, Lydia Patch. The intentions were recorded Aug. 1, but no record of the marriage has been found. She d. leaving one daughter, whose descendants are numerous. He md. (2d) in Harvard, but himself a resident of Stow, May 13, 1762, Sarah Fairbanks, b. in Harvard Oct. 27, 1742, dau. of Dea. Phinehas and Sarah Fairbanks and a granddau. of Dea. Joseph Fairbanks, *q. v.* She was a sister to the wife of Daniel Knight, *q. v.* About 1772 he removed from Stow to Harvard, and in 1780 he removed to this town. He was a substantial citizen and by occupation a farmer. In 1781 he was chosen tithingman which asserts a propriety of deportment and a dignity of manner. In 1782 he was chosen sexton, and by annual election was continued in that solemn office until 1799. In 1808 he removed to Williston, Vt., where he d. April, 1828; Sarah, his wife, d. May 1, 1828. Five children were born in Stow, three in Harvard and three in Ashburnham.

2 I. *Eunice*, b. ——, 1759; md. March 1, 1781, Levi Fairbanks, b. in Harvard 1755, son of Capt. Joseph and Abigail (Hodgman) Fairbanks, and a brother of Cyrus Fairbanks of Ashburnham. He settled in Westminster and after 1785 lived in Gardner, where he d. 1845. She d. 1851. Eight children and a numerous posterity. Phebe Fairbanks, who md. John Wilker, was a granddau.

3 II. *Stephen*, b. June 20, 1763.+

4 III. *Phinehas*, b. April 21, 1765.+

5 IV. *Ephraim*, b. ——, 1767.+

6 V. *David*, b. Jan. 19, 1771; d. March 18, 1776.

7 VI. *Sarah*, b. March 7, 1773; d. May 21, 1776.

8 VII. *Lydia*, b. Oct. 2, 1775; md. Nehemiah Hobart, *q. v.*

9 VIII. *Sarah*, b. Dec. 23, 1778.

10 IX. *David*, b. April 22, 1781.+
11 X. *Samuel*, b. Sept. 29, 1784.+
12 XI. *John*, bap. and d. Oct. 4, 1787.

(3) STEPHEN RANDALL, eldest son of Stephen, was a farmer in Ashburnham until 1806. In 1795 he withdrew from the Congregational church and united with the Methodists. He became an influential member of that young society and was enrolled among the early preachers. Subsequently he preached about eight years in Vermont and finally located at a place now known as Kendall, in Orleans county, New York. He purchased a considerable tract of land, and here he resided until his death April 16, 1828. In the records of Ashburnham there is ample evidence that he was held in high esteem, and both ability and character are reflected in his subsequent career. He md. in Ashburnham Feb. 24, 1785, Mary Rice, b. in Lancaster Jan. 16, 1762, dau. of Zebulon and Susanna (Allen) Rice, *q. v.*; she d. at Barre, N. Y., July 15, 1852. Eight children b. in Ashburnham.

13 I. *Stephen*, b. April 5, 1786; d. at Hamlin, N. Y., July 20, 1862.
14 II. *Amos*, b. Jan. 3, 1788; md. April 7, 1813, Fanny Tabor. He was a farmer at Kendall, N. Y., where he d. Aug. 22, 1830; his widow d. Dec. 22, 1877. Eight children; among them, Hon. Gideon Randall; Dr. James W. Randall of Albion, N. Y., d. Feb. 14, 1884; Amos S. Randall of Chicago, Ill.
15 III. *Polly*, b. Sept. 14, 1789; md. —— Cochrane. Their son, Wesley Cochrane, D. D., a retired Methodist clergyman and author.
16 IV. *Theophilus*, b. Sept. 10, 1791; a successful physician; d. at Hamlin, N. Y., Feb. 20, 1854.
17 V. *John*, b. 1794; d. March 14, 1795.
18 VI. *Betsey*, b. Jan. 18, 1796; md. —— Sanborn.
19 VII. *John Wesley*, b. Feb. 22, 1798; md. June 11, 1820, Jane Daniels. He d. at Shabbona, Ill., Jan. 10, 1880; she d. at Chicago Feb. 10, 1868.
20 VIII. *Jesse Lee*, b. March 21, 1804; d. in Pennsylvania March 27, 1832.

(4) PHINEHAS RANDALL md. in Ashburnham Oct. 26, 1786, Sarah Crosby, b. in Billerica Dec. 25, 1763, dau. of Jesseniah and Mary (Hosley) Crosby; she was a sister of the wife of Isaac Stearns. He resided in this town until

1808, and then with his father he removed to Williston, Vt., where he d. in May, 1843; his wife d. Feb., 1843. Nine children were b. in Ashburnham.

21 I. *Phinehas*, b. June 5, 1787.+
22 II. *Sally*, b. May 22, 1790; d. Jan. 8, 1843.
23 III. *Lydia*, b. June 30, 1792; deaf and dumb; was living 1875.
24 IV. *Sardis*, b. Jan. 22, 1794; d. March 6, 1795.
25 V. *Infant*, b. ——; d. March 12, 1797.
26 VI. *Infant*, b. and d. July 9, 1798.
27 VII. *Lois*, b. Jan. 26, 1800; md. Joseph Pine.
28 VIII. *Infant*, b. and d. March 3, 1804.
29 IX. *Mary*, b. June 17, 1807; md. David Higgins who d. 1848; md. (2d) —— Bristol; she d. in Michigan 1849.

(5) EPHRAIM RANDALL, son of Stephen, md. Dorothy Davis, dau. of Capt. Deliverance Davis, *q. v.* They resided in this town until 1805, when they removed to Vermont.

30 I. *David*, b. March 18, 1789.
31 II. *Dolly*, b. ——.
32 III. *Lucy*, b. ——.
33 IV. *Sophia*, b. ——.
34 V. *Infant*, b. and d. Feb. 21, 1798.
35 VI. *Infant*, b. ——; d. June 29, 1799.
36 VII. *Infant*, b. ——; d. Nov. 20, 1800.
37 VIII. *Infant*, b. ——; d. June 2, 1803.

(10) DAVID RANDALL, son of Stephen, md. Betsey Hastings, dau. of Capt. Charles Hastings, *q. v.* It is not known when or where he d. She md. (2d) Joseph Spaulding, *q. v.*

38 I. *Caroline*, b. March 5, 1805; md. Dea. Zenas Allen, *q. v.*

(11) SAMUEL RANDALL, son of Stephen, md. June 17, 1807, Anner Green, dau. of Oliver Green, *q. v.* He resided some years in Rutland, Vt.; returned to Ashburnham 1828. He was an intelligent man and by occupation a carpenter, wheelwright and a farmer. He d. March 20, 1876; she d. Sept. 10, 1871.

39 I. *Adaline*, b. April 30, 1808; md. Matthias Mead. He resided in this town, a blacksmith, at Lane

Village from about 1830 to 1850; subsequently he resided in Lowell, where he was a dealer in stoves and tin ware. He is now living at Clarendon, Vt. She d. Aug. 8, 1871.

40 1. Sarah Adaline, b. Jan. 18, 1833; d. in Lowell 1861.

41 II. *Anner Green*, b. July 21, 1810; md. Dea. William P. Ellis, *q. v.*

(21) Hon. Phinehas Randall, Middlebury College 1813. *Vide* page 497. He was a member of the New York Legislature 1828–9, and in 1839 was appointed Presiding Judge of Common Pleas, Montgomery county. In 1851 he removed to Waukesha, Wis. He md. 1817, Sarah Beach. They had ten children. He d. June 2, 1853.

42 I. *Alexander W.*, b. Oct. 31, 1819; removed in 1840 to Wisconsin and the same year began the practice of law; member of Constitutional Convention 1847; member of the Legislature 1855; appointed Circuit Judge 1856; Governor of Wisconsin two terms 1857–61; appointed U. S. Minister to Rome 1862; First Assistant Postmaster General 1863; Postmaster General 1869–72. He md. 1842, Mary Van Vechten who d. 1858; md. (2d) 1866, Helen M. Thomas. He d. July 26, 1872.

43 II. *Edwin M.*, b. April 5, 1822; a successful lawyer, admitted to the bar 1843; removed to Wisconsin 1845, and to Jacksonville, Fla., 1867; appointed 1868 Chief Justice of Florida, a position he ably occupied until 1885, when he resigned and resumed the practice of his profession. He md. 1847, Julia A. Mills of Lewis county, N. Y.

44 III. *Esther Amelia*, b. April 30, 1825; md. 1849, Earl Trumbull; he d. 1851; md. (2d) 1860, Harvey E. Williams.

45 IV. *Harriet M.*, b. Sept. 9, 1827; md. 1849, Edward Orr, and d. in Detroit, Mich., four weeks afterward.

46 V. *Otis D.*, b. March 14, 1830; md. 1856, Hattie C. Stout. He is a merchant in Chicago, Ill.

47 VI. *Julia M.*, b. June 23, 1832; md. 1853, John D. Dunn, Esq.; he d. 1869.

48 VII. *Mary J.*, b. July 27, 1835; md. 1856, John K. Russell of Chicago, Ill.

49 VIII. *William W.*, b. Nov. 18, 1837; unmd.
50 IX. *Addison Crosby*, b. June 3, 1840; md. 1866, Louisa Butterworth; resides in Minnesota.
51 X. *Henry M.*, b. Nov. 14, 1842; resides unmd. in California.

52 JONAS RANDALL, not immediately connected with the above families, was in Ashburnham from 1802 to 1807. Perhaps he was a son of Abraham Randall of Stow, for Paul Randall was here a year or two, and Jonas, son of Abraham Randall, had a brother Paul. If this conjecture is correct, he was b. in Stow Feb. 27, 1780. The only additional record is the mention of his wife Caty and three children.

53 I. *Cyrus*, b. Dec. 6, 1802.
54 II. *Catherine*, b. Aug. 7, 1804.
55 III. *Elizabeth*, b. April 23, 1806.

1 DANIEL RAYMOND, with wife Molly, removed from Worcester to Ashby in May, 1785. Their eight children were b. in Ashby, and he d. there Oct. 1, 1835.

2 DANIEL RAYMOND, son of Daniel and Molly Raymond, was b. May 18, 1788. He md. in June, 1812, Sally Green, b. March 27, 1789, dau of Isaac Green. He resided in Ashby until 1822, when he removed to this town, where he d. Jan. 5, 1846. He was a carpenter and carriage maker. Except the youngest daughter and son Charles, the children were b. in Ashby.

3 I. *Mary Green*, b. May 18, 1813; md. April 15, 1829, James F. Barrett.
4 II. *Infant*, b. June 11, 1814; d. young.
5 III. *William*, b. Oct. 27, 1815. A missionary to Africa, *vide* page 500. He md. Eliza Ruggles of Brantford, Canada.
6 IV. *Lewis*, b. Dec. 15, 1816; md. Cynthia Wheeler of Ashby. Engaged in the manufacture of musical instruments at Norwich, Conn., where he d. 1846.
7 V. *Joel*, b. Dec. 19, 1817; md. Elizabeth Fairbank of Boston; d. 1846 at Norwich, Conn.
8 VI. *Ari*, b. May 7, 1820; *vide* page 514; md. Eliza Secomb of Salem.
6 VII. *Alvin*, b. April 5, 1822; d. July 31, 1832.
10 VIII. *Elvira Kinsley*, b. July 29, 1823; d ——.
11 IX. *Charles*, b. Jan. 6, 1826.†

(11) CHARLES RAYMOND was a machinist apprentice in Lowell and subsequently engaged in business in Bristol, Conn. He gave early thought and attention to the sewing machines and has protected several inventions under letters patent. Since 1862 he has been an extensive manufacturer of sewing machines at Guelph, Canada, with an annual sale of $200,000. He has been elected to many positions in municipal affairs and has ever been an earnest advocate of public schools. He is a deacon of the Baptist church and is prominently connected with the missionary societies of Canada, and an active member of the executive board for Foreign Missions.

He md. Aug. 9, 1847, Mary C. Marston of Sharon, Vt., who d. June, 1869; md. (2d) Aug. 17, 1870, Helen J. Gill of Brattleboro', Vt.

12 I. *Emma Ardelia*, b. April 3, 1849; md. John Crowe of Guelph.
13 II. *Arthur*, b. April 25, 1853; d. May 14, 1854.
14 III. *Ada F.*, b. Oct. 18, 1855; md. John B. Minor of Brantford, Canada.

1 ISAAC REED was b. in Littleton Oct. 7, 1768. He was a son of Samuel and Hannah (Raymond) Reed, grandson of Major Benjamin and Rebecca (Stone) Reed of Littleton and a great-grandson of Capt. William and Sarah (Poulter) Reed of Lexington. He md. July 9, 1789, Rebecca Fletcher of Westford and removed to this town in 1794. He lived in the east part of the town. The family disappeared about 1813.

2 I. *Rebecca*, b. in Westford Oct. 16, 1789; d. Feb. 2, 1792.
3 II. *Betsey*, b. in Tyngsboro' May 2, 1791.
4 III. *Rebecca*, b. in Westford Feb. 12, 1793.
5 IV. *Isaac*, b. in Ashburnham Feb. 17, 1795; d. March 2, 1796.
6 V. *Joanna*, b. Jan. 22, 1797.
7 VI. *Jonathan*, b. March 22, 1799; d. Feb. 27, 1805.
8 VII. *Thomas Jefferson*, b. March 18, 1801; d. March 4, 1805.
9 VIII. *Isaac*, b. June 23, 1803.
10 IX. *Sumner*, b. Sept. 4, 1805,
11 X. *Lucy*, b. Jan. 14, 1808.
12 XI. *Thomas Jefferson*, b. April 27, 1810.

13 JONAS REED was b. in Woburn April 15, 1758. He was a son of George and Mary (Wood) Reed, grandson

of Ebenezer and Huldah Reed, great-grandson of Dea. George and Abigail (Pierce) Reed, great-great-grandson of George and Elizabeth (Jennison) Reed and great-great-great-grandson of William and Mabel Reed, the emigrant ancestors. Jonas Reed md. in Woburn July 2, 1778, Rhoda Johnson and removed to this town previous to 1800. He was a farmer in the east part of the town on the farm known as the Josiah Eaton farm. His wife d. Jan., 1830, aged 70.

14 I. *Rhoda*, b. April 18, 1779; md. James Weston, *q. v.*
15 II. *Jonas*, b. June 17, 1781; resided in this town until about 1812.
16 III. *Benjamin*, b. Feb. 24, 1784.+
17 IV. *Patty*, b. July 28, 1790.
18 V. *Mary*, b. ——; md. Josiah Eaton, *q. v.*
19 VI. *Nancy*, b. June 27, 1794; md. Ezekiel Merriam, *q. v.*

(16) BENJAMIN REED, son of Jonas, and wife Betsey came to this town 1807, and disappeared soon after 1821. The tax lists indicate that he was elsewhere two or three years about 1815.

20 I. *Betsey*, b. Sept. 3, 1808.
21 II. *Sophronia*, b. Feb. 21, 1810.
22 III. *Elisha*, b. Aug. 3, 1818.
23 IV. *Ivers*, b. June 20, 1820.

24 JOSHUA FLETCHER REED, then of Ashburnham, md. 1815, Betsey Fletcher of Westford. They buried two children in this town, one in 1818 and one in 1819. No record of his death; she md. (2d) 1823, John Fenno of Rindge.

RICE.

EDMUND RICE, b. about 1594, came from Barkhamstead, Hertfordshire, in England, and settled in Sudbury 1639. He was selectman several years, one of the deacons of the church, and the recipient of several appointments from the General Court. He was one of the petitioners for the grant which afterwards was known as Marlboro' and subsequently removed to that place. His wife, Tamazine, d. in Sudbury June 13, 1654; and he md. (2d) March 1, 1655, Mercy (Hurd) Brigham, widow of Thomas Brigham, the emigrant. He d. in Marlboro' May 3, 1663, and was buried in Sudbury. His widow md. (3d) 1664, William Hunt, and d. Dec. 28, 1693. Thomas Rice (son of Edmund) and wife Mary resided in Sudbury until about 1664, when he removed to Marlboro', where he d. Nov. 16, 1681. The youngest of his thirteen children was Elisha Rice, b. in Marlboro' Dec. 11, 1679. He md. Feb. 20, 1707-8, Elizabeth Wheeler of Concord. He resided a few years in Sudbury, and in 1719 he was one of the proprietors of Worcester and was

residing there; but he soon returned to Sudbury where he d. 1761. Zebulon Rice, the youngest of the seven children of Elisha Rice, was b. in Sudbury Jan. 5, 1725. He md. Dec. 7, 1749, Susanna Allen of Sudbury. He settled in Lancaster and at the incorporation of Boylston or some other change in town lines his farm was included within that town. He d. in Boylston Dec. 26, 1799; his widow d. in Ashburnham Dec. 17, 1823. Of the seventeen children of Zebulon and Susanna (Allen) Rice, six have resided in this town. Three sons, Jonas, Reuben and Eliakim, are named in the following register: Susanna became the wife of Jonathan Samson, Mary the wife of Stephen Randall, jr., and Dolly, b. June 5, 1776, md. 1801, John Babcock, resided several years in Fitchburg and d. in this town 1837.

1. JONAS RICE, son of Zebulon and Susanna (Allen) Rice, was b. in Lancaster Feb. 16, 1754. He resided in Salem in 1775 and in 1776 and 1777 he was in Sterling. He md. May 10, 1779, Zilpah Townsend, dau. of Joshua and Mary Townsend, *q. v.*, and the same year removed to this town. He was a farmer and an industrious, respectable citizen. He settled in the southwest part of the town but removed to the Sawin farm. *Vide* pages 180 and 201. He d. April 26, 1836; his widow d. July 22, 1846.

2. I. *Persis*, b. July 1, 1782; blind; d. unmd. July 4, 1857.
3. II. *Zilpah*, b. Feb. 25, 1784; md. Abel Wright, *q. v.*
4. III. *Levi*, b. Aug. 19, 1785.+
5. IV. *Mary*, b. June 9, 1788; md. Jan. 28, 1813, Luther Willoughby of Hollis, N. H.; they resided at Goffstown, N. H., where she d. April 1, 1843.
6. V. *Lucy*, b. July 24, 1790; md. 1809, Ebenezer Jaquith; lived at Washington, N. H., and subsequently at Milford, N. H.
7. VI. *Jonas*, b. April 1, 1792; blind; d. unmd. Nov. 26, 1854.
8. VII. *Ruth*, b. Dec. 31, 1793; md. Samuel Brooks, son of Thaddeus Brooks, *q. v.*
9. VIII. *Susan*, b. Jan. 20, 1796; d. unmd. June 13, 1863.
10. IX. *Silas*, b. April 13, 1798.+
11. X. *Salmon*, b. Sept. 30, 1800.+

(4) LEVI RICE md. April 27, 1809, Anna Sawyer, b. May 16, 1791, dau. of Eli and Anna (Laws) Sawyer of Westminster. They resided in this town. He d. March 11, 1837; she d. Aug. 29, 1883, aged 92.

12. I. *Levi*, b. Aug. 14, 1809; md. May 2, 1832, Deborah Willard, dau. of John Willard, *q. v.* They resided in Sterling, where he d. Nov. 24, 1885; she d. Jan., 1875. Five children.

13 II. *Joseph*, b. Aug. 5, 1813; md. Sept. 13, 1835, Eveline A. Stoddard, b. in Chesterfield, N. H., April 2, 1814, dau. of Arad and Polly (Davis) Stoddard. She d. Feb., 1886; he resides at South Village.

14 1. Susan C., b. Dec. 17, 1859 (adopted); she was postmaster Ashburnham depot from 1881 to 1886.

15 III. *Nancy*, b. March 10, 1816; d. March 29, 1819, scalded.

16 IV. *Sylvia*, b. May 30, 1818; md. Eber Gibson, *q. v.*

17 V. *Sawyer*, b. June 12, 1820; md. Jan. 23, 1847, Mary Catlin; removed to Maine; now resides in Chelsea.

18 VI. *Arvilla*, b. Nov. 20, 1822; md. John Nichols, *q. v.*

19 VII. *Aaron*, b. March 24, 1827; md. Flora Catlin; resided in Fitchburg, where he d. Feb. 6, 1882.

(10) SILAS RICE was a farmer in Ashburnham. He removed to Ashby 1852, where he d. Sept. 30, 1862. He md. Sept. 12, 1825, Almira Corey, dau. of Stephen Corey, *q. v.* She d. Feb. 25, 1843; he md. (2d) May 8, 1844, Adaline (Kendall) Sawin, widow of Stephen Sawin, *q. v.* She d. in Fitchburg Aug. 24, 1885.

20 I. *Elizabeth C.*, b. March 21, 1827; md. April 4, 1850, Jonas Whitney, son of Prescott Whitney of Ashby; resided in Fitchburg, where she d. May 3, 1874. One son: Frank O., a civil engineer in Boston.

21 II. *Edwin*, b. Dec. 21, 1834; d. in Paxton, Ill., *s. p.*, April 29, 1884.

22 III. *Walter*, b. Dec. 25, 1836; a Congregational clergyman. *Vide* page 505. He md. Aug. 24, 1865, Nellie F. King, dau. of Vila and Eleanor (Kendall) King. They reside in Brandon, Vt.

23 IV. *Dexter S.*, b. Aug. 3, 1840; md. 1865, Mercy Bangs; resides in Portland, Me., where he is extensively engaged in the manufacture of furniture.

24 V. *Charles H.*, b. Feb. 19, 1843; a physician in Fitchburg. *Vide* page 517. He md. June 1, 1870, Delia L. Estabrook, dau. of Samuel and Lucinda Estabrook.

25 VI. *Almira M.*, b. Jan. 28, 1845; d. Feb. 17, 1856.

(11) SALMON RICE md. Nov. 29, 1827, Catherine Cummings of New Ipswich, and in 1832 removed to New Boston, N. H., where he d. Dec. 12, 1838; his widow d. in Amherst, N. H., Dec. 31, 1883.

26 I. *Sarah Cummings*, b. Sept. 3, 1828; md. May 4, 1847, Phineas P. Davis of Concord, N. H. He d. March 8, 1864; his widow resides in Ashburnham. Their only child, Susie Wallace Davis, b. Feb. 12, 1863, md. June 3, 1884, Alfred H. Whitney.

27 II. *Charles*, b. Aug. 8, 1830; md. Oct. 6, 1857, Sarah Cassidy of Northboro'; resides at Felton, Delaware.

28 III. *Catherine F.*, b. March 30, 1833; unmd.; resides in Amherst, N. H.

29 IV. *George E.*, b. Sept. 28, 1835; md. Feb. 13, 1862; d. Jan. 27, 1877; resided in Wilmington, Del.

30 V. *Salmon W.*, b. Feb. 14, 1839; md. 1861, Anna Engle; resides at Wilmington, Del.

31 REUBEN RICE, a brother of Jonas Rice, was b. in Lancaster Aug. 10, 1757. He resided a few years in Lancaster and in Winchendon and was in the service during the Revolution. *Vide* page 181. He settled in the southeast part of this town 1780. Although prominently identified with the effort to secure the incorporation of the town of Belvoir he was ever a useful and a loyal citizen of this town. He md. June 8, 1784, Sarah Metcalf, dau. of Joseph Metcalf, *q. v.* She d. Feb. 16, 1814; he md. (2d) 1816, Charlotte Johnson, dau. of Simeon Johnson of Dublin, N. H. He d. March 22, 1837.

32 I. *Infant*, b. ——; d. May 20, 1785.

33 II. *Sarah*, b. March 25, 1786; md. Benjamin Gibbs, *q. v.*

34 III. *Reuben*, b. Jan. 20, 1789.+

35 IV. *Infant*, b. ——; d. Feb. 24, 1791.

36 V. *Joseph*, b. Oct. 23, 1792.+

37 VI. *Anna*, b. Sept. 25, 1794; md. Ephraim Taylor, *q. v.*

38 VII. *Eunice*, b. June 19, 1797; md. John Conn, *q. v.*

39 VIII. *Amos*, b. June 28, 1799.+

40 IX. *Zebulon*, b. May 6, 1801.+

41 X. *Lucy*, b. Dec. 20, 1803; md. Benjamin Gibbs, *q. v.*

42 XI. *Matilda*, b. July 24, 1806; md. John Conn.

43 XII. *Emma*, b. March 6, 1811; md. Benjamin Adams of Leominster.

(34) Reuben Rice, Jr., md. Jan. 19, 1813, Dorcas Polley, dau. of Peter Polley; she d. Sept. 17, 1816; he md. (2d) July 12, 1820, Charlotte Stearns, dau. of William Stearns, *q. v.* He served in the War of 1812 and subsequently was commander of the Ashburnham Light Infantry. In 1837 he removed to Fitchburg and later to Lunenburg, where he d. ——; his wife d. 1849.

44 I. *George Proctor*, b. April 4, 1816; md. 1840, Clarissa Angell; removed to Vermont.

45 II. *Charles Stearns*, b. Oct. 18, 1824; md. Catherine L. Brown of Westminster; removed to Westminster.

(36) Joseph Rice md. Feb. 26, 1818, Susan Balcom and resided near Factory Village. He was an officer several years of the Ashburnham Light Infantry, and was an active, substantial citizen. He d. Aug. 6, 1844; she md. (2d) William Wiswell of Westminster; md. (3d) Abel Bennett; she d. Dec. 2, 1883.

46 I. *Susan Allen*, b. Jan. 23, 1818; d. unmd. Sept. 1, 1841.

47 II. *Joseph Parker*, b. March 10, 1821.+

48 III. *Edwin*, b. Sept. 22, 1825; d. Dec. 8, 1825.

49 IV. *Martin*, b. July 28, 1828; d. March 18, 1832.

50 V. *Mirick*, b. Sept. 10, 1831; d. Aug. 20, 1833.

51 VI. *Oran S.*, b. Sept. 25, 1833; md. Nov. 12, 1868, Emma F. Pratt; md. (2d) Oct. 9, 1876, Ella J. Stowell, dau. of Otis W. Stowell, *q. v.* He resides at Fitchburg. Four children.

52 VII. *Theodore*, b. Jan. 5, 1841; d. in Westminster Dec. 13, 1860.

(39) Amos Rice md. Sept. 24, 1834, Eunice Robbins, dau. of Jonas Robbins, *q. v.* He resided in this town until 1833, when he removed to Cambridge where he d. April 4, 1841.

53 I. *Hervey Johnson*, b. June 17, 1826; md. Susan A. Philton.

54 II. *Lucy Jane*, b. April 6, 1830; md. Thaddeus P. Irish of Gorham, Me.

(40) Zebulon Rice md. June 1, 1826, Susan W. Whiting. He was a farmer in this town where his wife d. Feb. 19, 1871. He subsequently removed to Malden.

55 i. *David Zebulon*, b. July 10, 1831; d. July 6, 1832.
56 ii. *Susan E.*, b. Aug. 7, 1833; d. young.

(47) Col. Joseph P. Rice, whose name is embalmed in the memories of Ashburnham, was a useful and influential citizen as well as a brave soldier and an able commander. In Chap. XX, reference is made to his military service. He grew up among the inhabitants of this town and was the recipient of an unusual measure of their confidence and respect. He was frank, manly and self-reliant, and for these qualities he was esteemed and trusted by his associates. He was frequently chosen to office and was the last member of the Legislature from this town while Ashburnham remained an independent representative district. He md. May, 1848, Laura J. Holton who d. Oct. 8, 1853; md. (2d) June, 1857, Emma M. Garnett. He d. Sept. 1, 1862.

57 i. *Emma Josephine*, b. Nov. 7, 1858; d. Aug. 8, 1859.
58 ii. *Frederic William*, b. Sept. 27, 1860.
59 iii. *Joseph Newburn*, b. March 14, 1862.

60 Eliakim Rice, a brother of Jonas and Reuben Rice, was b. in Lancaster 1756. After serving in the Revolutionary army he removed to this town about 1780. *Vide* page 181. He md. Hannah Kendall and resided in this town a few years, and two of his eight children were b. and bap. here. About 1785 he removed to Hartland, Vt.

61 i. *John*, bap. July 23, 1780.
62 ii. *Sarah*, bap. May 26, 1782.

63 Phinehas Rice, lineage not traced; resided several years on the Winchendon road. There is no record of his family.

64 Jonah Rice, perhaps a brother of Phinehas Rice, occupied the same farm. Jonah Rice md. in Marlboro' April 8, 1789, Molly Hoit, and removed to this town in 1790. In 1819 he removed to Otisco, N. Y. The oldest child was b. in Marlboro' and eight in this town. He d. 1833; his widow d. 1858.

65 i. *Mary*, b. Sept. 23, 1789; md. Caleb Ward, Jr., *q. v.*
66 ii. *William*, b. June 7, 1791.

67 III. *Thomas*, b. Jan. 28, 1794; md. 1817, Mary Bowman, dau. of John Bowman, *q. v.*
68 IV. *Lucy*, b. Jan. 8, 1796.
69 V. *Levi*, b. July 27, 1799; md. Jan. 30, 1822, Catherine K. Reed.
70 VI. *John*, b. July 7, 1801.
71 VII. *Stephen*, b.——; d. Oct. 20, 1805, aged 2 years.
72 VIII. *Maria*, bap. 1811.
73 IX. *Luther*, bap. 1815.

74 EMERY RICE, b. Jan. 1, 1803, md. Nov. 26, 1827, Laura O. Fairbanks, eldest dau. of Jacob Fairbanks, *q. v.* They resided in this town until about 1855, when they removed to Lebanon, N. H., where he d. Feb. 22, 1873. While a resident of this town he was a popular officer of the Ashburnham Light Infantry.

75 I. *Emery Ezekiel*, b. Aug. 19, 1828.
76 II. *George Horatio*, b. Feb. 18, 1830.
77 III. *Lucius Edwin*, b. May 2, 1832.
78 IV. *Laura Ann*, b. Oct. 14, 1834; d. May 28, 1838.
79 V. *Waldo*, b. Oct. 8, 1837; d. May 14, 1838.
80 VI. *Marion Ardelia*, b. April 13, 1839.
81 VII. *Laura Ann*, b. March 7, 1842.

1 JOHN RICH, by tradition a German, was a man of influence, and while he remained in this town he was prominent in public affairs. He was one of the first board of selectmen chosen in Ashburnham and was often elected to other positions. He resided in the northeast part of the town, and in 1766, he was a leading spirit in an effort to secure the incorporation of Ashby. The general measure was successful, but the boundary as established left him in this town. About 1776 he removed to Haverhill, N. H. The name of his wife was Catherine.

2 I. *Mary*, b. Dec. 28, 1754.
3 II. *Elizabeth*, b. Feb. 28, 1756; md. Samuel Stone, *q. v.*
4 III. *John*, b. Dec. 23, 1760.
5 IV. *Henry*, b. June 27, 1764.
6 V. *Daniel*, b. Dec. 19, 1766.
7 VI. *Jacob*, b. March 13, 1770.
8 VII. *Abraham*, b. Dec. 22, 1772.
9 VIII. *Catherine*, bap. April 10, 1774.
An infant, perhaps Abraham, d. May 17, 1773.

1 JONAS RICHARDSON, from Shrewsbury, in 1781 settled in the southwest part of the town. Four years later he was included in the town of Gardner. He. md. Mary Bailey; md. (2d) about 1798, Lydia Woodbury. He d. 1815, aged 72.

2 I. *Azubah*, b. Sept. 5, 1772; md. Benjamin Peirce.
3 II. *Abel*, b. Feb. 26, 1774; md. Sarah Lincoln.
4 III. *Mary*, b. July 27, 1775; md. Benjamin Hill.
5 IV. *Elizabeth*, b. July 12, 1777; md. Jonathan Currier; resided in Gardner and Methuen.
6 V. *Persis*, b. Oct. 31, 1778.
7 VI. *Catherine*, b. Feb. 11, 1780.
8 VII. *Jonas*, b. March 12, 1782; md Abigail Currier.
9 VIII. *Asa*, b. Feb. 6, 1784; md. Elizabeth Glazier.
10 IX. *Nathan*, b. July 26, 1785; md. Sophia Boutelle.
11 X. *Levi*, b. April 4, 1801; md. Lovisa Pratt.

1 JONAS ROBBINS, then of Westminster, md. Nov. 26, 1801, Eunice Metcalf, dau. of Joseph Metcalf, *q. v.* In 1807 he removed to this town and occupied a small farm in the ninth school district. He manufactured and sold wooden noggins as they were called, and unlike the noggin of England, the capacity was more than a gill. In 1834 the family removed to Townsend. Three children b. in Westminster and four in this town.

2 I. *Eunice*, b. ——; md. Amos Rice, *q. v.*
3 II. *Jonas*, b. ——.
4 III. *Hannah*, b. ——.
5 IV. *Betsey H.*, b. May 11, 1808.
6 V. *Asa*, b. March 29, 1810; resided in Groton.
7 VI. *Nathan*, b. May 25, 1812.
8 VII. *Lucy*, b. April 30, 1822.

9 JEREMIAH ROBBINS, of Sudbury. md. Eunice (Dudley) Baker, widow of Amos Baker, and removed to this town about 1820. She d. Sept. 9, 1830; he md. (2d) Oct. 2, 1831, Ruth (Winter) Broughton, widow of William Broughton, *q. v.* Subsequently he was insane and d. in Sudbury.

10 I. *Rebecca*, b. May 17, 1820.
11 II. *Sarah*, b. March 16, 1822; resides unmd. in Manchester, N. H.
12 III. *Ruth*, b. July 21, 1824.

ROCKWOOD.

RICHARD ROCKWOOD, probably from Weymouth, Dorsetshire, England, was a planter in Dorchester 1636. He md. Agnes Bicknell, widow of

Zachary Bicknell. She d. in Braintree July 9, 1643. He md. (2d) Ann ——, who d. 1664. He d. 1660. There is record of two sons. Of these, Nicholas first located in Braintree and later was an early inhabitant and proprietor of Medfield. He was admitted freeman May 23, 1666. He md. Jane Adams, who d. Dec. 15, 1654; he md. (2d) July 16, 1656, Margaret Holbrook, who d. April 23, 1670; md. (3d) Silence ——, who d. Nov. 9, 1677. He d. Jan. 26, 1680.

Dea. Nathaniel Rockwood, son of Nicholas and Margaret (Holbrook) Rockwood, b. in Medfield Dec. 23, 1665, lived in Wrentham. He was there a deacon and a prominent citizen. He md. Dec. 7, 1698, Joanna Ellis, b. Jan. 17, 1677, dau. of Thomas and Mary (Wight) Ellis of Medfield. He d. Sept. 24, 1721. Elisha Rockwood, youngest of the ten children of Dea. Nathaniel Rockwood, was b. June 11, 1716. He md. Aug. 18, 1738, Elizabeth Adams, b. Sept. 4, 1719, dau. of James and Abigail (Hill) Adams of Sherborn. He was a clothier and settled in Groton, where he d. Dec. 5, 1788; his widow d. May 16, 1799. The fourth of their thirteen children was Joseph Rockwood, b. in Groton June 13, 1744. He md. Jan. 30, 1766, Sarah Richardson. He was a farmer in Groton, where he d. 1816.

Joseph Rockwood, eldest child of Joseph and Sarah (Richardson) Rockwood, was b. in Groton Dec. 17, 1766. He md. Oct. 25, 1789, Lucy Fletcher, b. Feb. 12, 1771, dau. of Capt. Pelatiah and Dorothy (Hildreth) Fletcher of Westford, and a sister of Pelatiah Fletcher of Ashburnham. He d. Oct. 2, 1806, leaving seven children. Among these was George Rockwood of Ashburnham.

1 GEORGE ROCKWOOD, son of Joseph, Jr., and Sarah (Fletcher) Rockwood, was b. in Groton Dec. 13, 1797. He md. May 1, 1823, Anna B. Stickney, b. in Townsend May 7, 1803, dau. of Joseph and Abigail (Jewett) Stickney. They removed to Ashburnham 1832. He was a merchant and a manufacturer of tubs and pails, and for many years he occupied a prominent position among the business men of Ashburnham. Mr. Rockwood was a man of superior ability, a good citizen and an active and tenacious supporter of the reforms of his time. He was a liberal contributor to the First Parish and for many years one of the most active and loyal members of the Society. In his business he was laborious, exact and honest and in his daily life he was kind to his associates and responsive to every demand of duty. He d. Dec. 20, 1864; his widow d. Jan. 1, 1870.

2 I. *George G.*, b. Nov. 21, 1826.+

3 II. *Charles F.*, b. Aug. 10, 1829.+

4 III. *Henry*, b. March 4, 1832; md. Feb. 23, 1856, Laura A. Clifford, b. Jan. 15, 1835, dau. of Joseph and Clarissa Clifford of Gilmanton, N. H. Resides at South Weymouth. Three of their five children are living.

5 IV. *S. Augustus*, b. Sept. 21, 1837; md. Lois E. Stickney, b. Feb. 7, 1845, dau. of Alvah and Rebecca W. (Spaulding) Stickney of Townsend. He was orderly sergeant Co. F, 25th Massa-

chusetts Regiment. Near the close of three years' service he lost his right arm. Subsequently he was a teacher in Comer's Commercial College and a merchant at South Weymouth. He d. in Ashburnham Sept. 21, 1873.

6 v. *Abbie J.*, b. Dec. 20, 1839; md. May 19, 1864, Lieut. Charles H. Parker, b. in Providence, R. I., March 22, 1839, son of Ira and Maria D. (Haskell) Parker. *Vide* page 445. They reside in Cambridge.

7 vi. *A. Theresa*, b. June 21, 1842; md. Charles T. Litch, *q. v.*

8 vii. *Joseph Albert*, b. Aug. 15, 1846; md. May 1, 1870, Lura M. Davis, dau. of Joel Davis of Fitchburg. He d. Oct. 26, 1871; she d. Jan. 12, 1877. One child.

(2) George G. Rockwood for many years has been town treasurer and has frequently been elected to other positions of trust. He is engaged in the manufacture of tubs and pails, and has successfully conducted the business over twenty years. He md. May 11, 1848, Sarah J. Adams, dau. of Walter Russell Adams, *q. v.* They reside on Main street in Central Village.

9 i. *Herbert A.*, b. June 18, 1850; d. Sept. 21, 1851.

10 ii. *Herbert F.*, b. Sept. 5, 1853; md. Jan. 4, 1883, Ellen Louisa Converse, b. in Winchendon Aug. 27, 1862, dau. of George W. and Ellen (Knapp) Converse. He is a commercial agent with May, Nash & Winslow, Boston.

11 iii. *Willis H.*, b. June 26, 1856; d. Aug. 11, 1857.

12 iv. *Ellen A.*, b. Oct. 27, 1858; d. Nov. 18, 1862.

13 v. *George W.*, b. May 30, 1864; he is a book-keeper in the office of his father.

(3) Charles F. Rockwood resided in this town until 1875, and was a clerk and accountant with the Winchesters. He was often chosen to office and was selectman, assessor and school committee several years. He resides in Fitchburg and is Register of Deeds of the Worcester Northern District. He md. April 13, 1854, Martha A. Baker, eldest dau. of Jesse and Sophia Baker of Lunenburg. Five children were b. in this town.

14 i. *Frank P.*, b. June 29, 1856; md. June, 1886, Clara B. Townsend; resides in Fitchburg.

15 II. *Emma B.*, b. Aug. 20, 1858; md. Charles H. Whitney, *q. v.*
16 III. *Mary S.*, b. March 5, 1862; md. Sept. 29, 1885, Albert L. Pratt; reside in Fitchburg.
17 IV. *Fred C.*, b. Feb. 23, 1866.
18 V. *Charles A.*, b. July 13, 1870.

1 SIMON RODAMEL, with wife Elizabeth and two children, came with the German colony and settled on Lexington grant in 1758. He was admitted to the church on letter of recommendation from a church in Germany. He was a man of good character, yet retaining his national characteristics he mingled less with the people and was more reserved in his manner than his German associates. The name appears in the record in several forms, but later it has generally been written Rodimon and sometimes Dimon. He d. Oct. 23, 1813, aged 93; his wife d. July 10, 1794.

2 I. *Mary*, b. Nov. 5, 1752; md. Jan. 3, 1783, Henry Stevens of Claremont, N. H.
3 II. *Adam*, b. March 19, 1754; a Revolutionary soldier. *Vide* Chapter V. He resided in this town until near the close of the century.
4 III. *Elizabeth*, b. Aug. 23, 1758; md. Nicholas Whiteman, *q. v.*
5 IV. *Jacob*, b. June 3, 1760; served two enlistments in the Revolution. At the close of the war he removed to Claremont, N. H.
6 V. *Simon*, b. June 30, 1763; was in Capt. Edgell's company 1778 and was a six months' recruit 1780. He lived in this town several years when he removed to Piermont, N. H. Ezra C. Rodimon, who has resided in this town several years, is a grandson.
7 VI. *Peter*, b. Dec. 17, 1765. He was less than five feet in stature, but followed the example of his brothers and joined the army, enlisting in 1781 for three years. After the war he was in this town several years and removed, says tradition, "to the lower towns."
8 VII. *Catherine*, bap. 1770.

RUSSELL.

If not among the earlier settlers of Ashburnham, the Russell families have been numerous. They are closely allied and are descendants of Joseph Russell, b. Aug. 25, 1703. The emigrant ancestor was William Russell, b. in England 1570. With wife Martha and son Joseph he came to Cambridge about 1640. He was a millwright and carpenter. He. d., leaving ten

children, Feb. 14, 1661. Joseph Russell, his son, b. in England 1636, md. June 23, 1662, Mary Belcher, dau. of Jeremiah Belcher of Ipswich. He was a carpenter and resided in Menotomy, where he d. 1694; his wife d. June 24, 1691. Of their ten children Walter Russell, b. April 30, 1676, md. May 17, 1699, Mary Patten, b. July 24, 1679, dau. of Nathaniel and Sarah (Cooper) Patten; she d. leaving a son Joseph, and he md. (2d) April 3, 1706, Elizabeth Winship, b. June 1, 1686, dau. of Edward and Rebecca (Barsham) Winship by whom he had ten children. He d. in Menotomy March 30, 1748; his widow d. April 14, 1750.

Joseph Russell, b. Aug. 25, 1703, son of Walter and Mary (Patten) Russell, md. Oct. 9, 1724, Mary Robbins, bap. July 27, 1701, dau. of Nathaniel and Hannah Robbins. He was a school-teacher and later a farmer, and resided on the main road to Menotomy. In 1736 he removed to the west part of Charlestown, now Somerville. He d. Nov. 18, 1776; his widow d. Dec. 28, 1781. On the farm where he d. Gov. Isaac Hill and also his mother were born. Of the children of Joseph and Hannah (Robbins) Russell the descendants of Walter and Philemon have resided in Ashburnham.

Walter Russell, b. Jan. 24, 1737, md. Dec. 14, 1758, Mary Wyman, b. March 9, 1757, dau. of David Wyman of Woburn; she d., *s. p.*, Dec. 1, 1760; he md. (2d) Dec. 17, 1761, Hannah Adams, b. April 13, 1743, a dau. of Capt. Thomas and a sister of John Adams, the centenarian. He d. at Menotomy, on the Charlestown side of the river, May 5, 1782. His widow md. (2d) Enos Jones, *q. v.* Of their children Hannah Russell, b. Feb. 8, 1772, md. Isaac Hill and removed to Ashburnham. Thomas, b. June 9, 1767, removed to Ashburnham and is No. 1 in the following register.

Philemon Russell, b. Aug. 1, 1740, son of Joseph and Mary (Robbins) Russell, md. June 28, 1764, Elizabeth Wyman, b. March 6, 1740, dau. of David Wyman of Woburn. He d. in Menotomy May 31, 1797; his widow d. Oct. 22, 1825. This is the first instance of the name Philemon in the Russell family; the name occurred earlier in the Robbins family. Among the children of Philemon Russell was David Russell who is No. 25 in the register.

1 THOMAS RUSSELL, b. June 9, 1767, son of Walter and Hannah (Adams) Russell, md. Nov. 25, 1788, Margaret Adams, b. Nov. 12, 1769, dau. of William and Sarah (Hill) Adams. He came to Ashburnham in 1787 and settled on Russell hill, on the farm more recently owned by Ward Russell. He d. Aug. 19, 1823; she d. Aug. 12, 1854.

2 I. *Peggy*, b. April 19, 1789; md. Ebenezer Adams, *q. v.*; md. (2d) Asa Woods, *q. v.*

3 II. *Thomas*, b. Oct. 23, 1791.+

4 III. *James*, b. Dec. 30, 1793; md. Nov. 6, 1825, Martha M. W. Locke, b. Jan. 19, 1803, dau. of Daniel and Mary Williams Locke of West Cambridge. He lived in West Cambridge, now Arlington, where he d. Nov. 28, 1859.

5 IV. *Walter*, b. June 29, 1796.+

6 V. *Sarah A.*, b. March 15, 1799; md. Ephraim Cutter; md. (2d) Joseph Harris, *q. v.*

7 VI. *Susan A.*, b. Dec. 19, 1801; md. Dec. 3, 1818, Peter Tufts, b. Sept. 3, 1798.

8 VII. *Charles*, b. Sept 10, 1804; md. Nov. 4, 1829, Sarah Phillips, dau. of Samuel Phillips, *q. v.*; she d. Jan. 31, 1838; md. (2d) 1837, Harriet Farrar

of Fitchburg, who d. Jan. 21, 1885. He was a carpenter in Fitchburg; d. June 23, 1865.

9 VIII. *Mary Adams*, b. Jan. 21, 1811; md. Oct. 17, 1829, Ward Russell, son of David Russell, *q. v.*

(3) THOMAS RUSSELL md. Nov. 28, 1816, Hepsibah Adams, dau. of Ebenezer Thomas Adams, *q. v.* He was a farmer on the Isaac Hill farm and also engaged in the morocco business. He d. May 7, 1838.

10 I. *Hepsey Adams*, b. Oct. 17, 1817; md. John Goodale; reside in Cambridge.

11 II. *Emily Maria*, b. Sept. 20, 1819; md. Alonzo P. Davis, *q. v.*

12 III. *Sarah Eliza*, b. March 25, 1822; md. Abel S. Wood, b. July 17, 1815, son of Aaron Wood of Gardner; she d. Nov. 8, 1849.

13 IV. *Lydia Loenza*, b. Sept. 8, 1828; d. June 27, 1848.

14 V. *Mary Jane*, b. June 21, 1831; d. July 20, 1831.

15 VI. *Marcus Thomas*, b. Sept. 29, 1833; md. Dec. 29, 1859, Clara Gee, b. Dec. 7, 1835, dau. of Stephen and Marinda Gee. He is a farmer on the Ariel Cummings farm.

(5) WALTER RUSSELL in youth was an apprentice to Gov. Isaac Hill; returning to Ashburnham he was a farmer on Russell hill, and was successfully engaged in the morocco business. He md. July 4, 1820, Alona Lawrence, dau. of Moses Lawrence, *q. v.* She d. Oct. 15, 1844; he md. (2d) May 1, 1845, Rebecca (Green) Shattuck, dau. of Solomon Green, *q. v.*; he d. May 5, 1856; she md. (3d) Hosea Green, *q. v.*

16 I. *Jane Alona*, b. June 10, 1821; md. Thomas R. Adams, son of Ebenezer Adams, *q. v.*

17 II. *Franklin*, b. Oct. 12, 1822; md. 1845, Sarah G. Jefts, she d. Oct. 8, 1860; md. (2d) Nov. 12, 1861, Mary Brown, dau. of Jacob Brown of Walpole, N. H. He is a morocco dresser; was formerly engaged in business in this town, where he was a prominent citizen. He is now engaged in business in Norwood.

18 III. *Sarah Ann*, b. July 29, 1824; md. Samuel V. Whitney, *q. v.*

19 IV. *Dexter*, b. Oct. 22, 1826; md. Augusta E. Sawtell, dau. of Asa Sawtell. He d. July 8, 1861. She resides in Minneapolis, Minn.

20 V. *Emma*, b. Dec. 3, 1829; d. unmd. Nov. 27, 1851.

21 VI. *Harriet Lucretia*, b. April 3, 1833; md. Leonard W. Sawtell, *q. v.*
22 VII. *Malvina*, b. ——.
23 VIII. *Charles*, b. 1844; d. Aug. 21, 1846.

24 DAVID RUSSELL, b. 1767, son of Philemon and Elizabeth (Wyman) Russell, was a first cousin of the elder Thomas Russell of Ashburnham. He md. Aug. 11, 1793, Lydia Green, b. Sept. 16, 1768, dau. of Benjamin and Martha (Brown) Green of Watertown. He resided in Watertown several years, and removed to this town in 1798. He lived where Edwin Hayward now resides and was a farmer and an innholder. Subsequently he removed to Russell hill. He d. Nov. 19, 1847; his wife d. Jan. 6, 1841.

25 I. *Benjamin Green*, b. March 11, 1794; md. Elizabeth Greenleaf; md. (2d) Eliza Batchelder, lived in Boston. He d. in this town April 12, 1833.
26 II. *David Wyman*, b. Sept. 13, 1795.+
27 III. *Lydia*, b. May 7, 1797; d. April 24, 1815.
28 IV. *Philemon*, b. Feb. 20, 1799.+
29 V. *Ward*, b. May 5, 1801.+
30 VI. *Elizabeth*, b. Nov. 30, 1802; md. Dec. 29, 1825, Richard W. Houghton, b. in Ashby Jan. 19, 1802, son of Elijah and Sarah Houghton. They resided in Lane Village, where he d. Sept. 22, 1846; she md. (2d) Jonas Lawrence, *q. v.*
31 VII. *Henry*, b. Aug. 6, 1806; md. Calista Kidder; removed to Oregon.

(26) DAVID W. RUSSELL md. 1826, Mary Cummings of New Ipswich; she d. July 4, 1859; he md. (2d) Nov. 25, 1860, Eunice (Winship) Robbins of Mason, N. H. He was a farmer on the homestead. He d. July 20, 1864; she resides in this town.

32 I. *David Wyman*, b. March 17, 1827; resides in Oregon.
33 II. *Mary*, b. April 9, 1831; resides in Oregon.

(28) PHILEMON RUSSELL was a farmer, owning the southern half of the homestead. He md. Oct. 20, 1835, Clarissa Smith of Mason, N. H., b. Oct. 31, 1805; he d. May 28, 1876.

34 i. *Abbie Smith*, b. Oct. 10, 1837; md. May 1, 1865, Rev. Francis J. Fairbanks, *q. v.* Five children.

35 ii. *George Philemon*, b. Jan. 20, 1840; md. March, 1868, Carrie Ladd of Rutland, Vt., who d. Sept. 27, 1868; md. (2d) Nov. 26, 1873, Addie L. Hannum of Rutland, Vt.

(29) WARD RUSSELL md. Nov 11, 1829, Mary A. Russell, dau. of Thomas Russell, Sen., *q. v.* In 1834 he built the house on Russell hill in which he subsequently lived; his farm was the original Russell farm to which he joined by purchase the farm formerly owned by Ethan Wetherbee and Isaac Hill. He d. Oct. 21, 1878.

36 i. *Levi Ward*, b. Feb. 15, 1831, resides in Providence and is principal of the Bridgman School. *Vide* page 515. He md. Nov. 26, 1856, Dollie A. Merriam, dau. of James Merriam, *q. v.*; she d. ——; he md. (2d) Nov. 20, 1859, Nellie M. Danforth. Three children.

37 ii. *Margaret A.*, b. Sept. 20, 1841; md. Nov. 24, 1859, Levi S. Burbank of Lancaster, b. May 10, 1828. Seven children. They reside in Waverly.

38 MOSES RUSSELL, lineage not traced, was in Ashburnham soon after 1772. His name appears on the roll of Capt. Gates' company 1775. His name is found in the records occasionally in incidental mention until 1781. He moved away soon after that date. The name of his wife was Hannah.

39 i. *Sarah Phelps*, bap. July 23, 1775; d. Feb. 8, 1776, "burned to death, aged 8 months."

40 ii. *Sarah Phelps*, bap. Aug. 24, 1777.

41 iii. *Lucy*, bap. Feb. 27, 1780.

SALTER.

The name of Salter disappeared from the records many years ago. Among the descendants of a daughter there are representatives of the family in this town at the present time. The first of the name in Ashburnham was probably the Samuel Salter who was b. in Charlestown Aug. 22, 1730. He was the son of Thomas, b. 1695, and Mary Salter, grandson of John, b. 1655–6, and Mary (Adams) Salter and great-grandson of Henry and Hannah Salter, all of Charlestown. Samuel Salter of Ashburnham, if this conjecture is sustained, was of the fourth generation of his family in this country.

1 SAMUEL SALTER md. in Stow Oct. 15, 1753, Sarah Knight and lived in Stow until 1765, when he removed to this town and settled where his great-grandson, Warren

Marble, now resides. This farm has remained continuously in the possession of his descendants. He d. July 18, 1800, "aged," says Mr. Cushing, "72." If he was b. 1730 his age would have been 70. His widow d. Sept. 11, 1807. Five children b. in Stow, four in Ashburnham.

2 I. *Samuel*, b. July 4, 1754. His name appears on the roll of Capt. Gates' company and Capt. Wilder's company. He md. July 14, 1778, Catherine Kiblinger, dau. of John Kiblinger, *q. v.*

3 II. *Sarah*, b. Aug. 4, 1757.

4 III. *Hannah*, b. Aug. 5, 1759; md. Nov. 28, 1785, Jonathan Gates of Stow.

5 IV. *Mary*, b. Jan. 1, 1762; md. Jabez Marble, *q. v.*

6 V. *Mercy*, b. Feb. 12, 1764; md. Jonas Benjamin, son of William Benjamin, *q. v.*

7 VI. *Lydia*, b. April 24, 1766.

8 VII. *Thomas*, bap. June 11, 1769; d. Oct. 3, 1769.

9 VIII. *Lois*, b. Aug. 6, 1770.

10 IX. *Phebe*, b. March 6, 1772; md. Feb. 13, 1794, Deliverance Wheeler, Jr.

SAMSON.

ABRAHAM SAMPSON, b. in England, came to America in 1629 or 1630. He settled at Duxbury and in 1643 his name appears on a roll of men, between 16 and 60 years, able to bear arms. In 1645 he was one of fifty-four grantees of Bridgewater and in 1654 he was admitted freeman. He was several times elected to office in Duxbury, but on account of a hiatus in the records only an imperfect record of his career has been preserved. He md. a daughter of Lieut. Samuel Nash of Duxbury and had four sons and perhaps other children. His son Isaac Sampson, b. 1660, md. Lydia Standish, dau. of Alexander and granddau. of Miles Standish. He lived in Plympton, where he d. Sept. 3, 1726, leaving nine children. Peleg Sampson, the fifth son, was b. Nov. 17, 1700. He md. Mary King and lived in Pembroke, Kingston, Plympton and Middleboro'. He was a member of John Winslow's company in an expedition under Admiral Vernon against the West Indies, and died of disease April 27, 1741. Among the seven children of Peleg Sampson was Jonathan of Ashburnham. At this time the name was first written Samson and this orthography has been continued by the Ashburnham families.

1 JONATHAN SAMSON was b. in Middleboro' Oct. 25, 1733. He resided a short time in Harvard where he md. 1758, Mary Oakes. He removed to Ashburnham 1762 and settled on the Merrick Whitney farm. He was one of the proprietors of Dorchester Canada and for many years he was treasurer of the propriety. At the first town meeting, 1765, he was chosen a surveyor of the highways. Subsequently he was a selectman and for many years a prominent and influential citizen. In 1776 he was one of

the committee of correspondence, and through the active years of his life he was frequently chosen to positions in town affairs. His wife d. Sept. 13, 1794; he md. (2d) Aug. 2, 1796, Sarah Osborn, a widow, and about 1802 removed to near Keene, N. H., perhaps Swanzey, and d. about 1820.

2 I. *Jonathan*, b. May 7, 1759.+
3 II. *Mary*, b. May 4, 1761; md. Moses Tottingham, *q. v.*
4 III. *Abraham*, b. May 22, 1763; md. Sally Adams.
5 IV. *Lydia*, b. Aug. 1, 1764; md. Edward Whitmore, *q. v.*
6 V. *Oliver*, b. Sept. 22, 1766.+
7 VI. *Ephraim*, b. June 9, 1769.+
8 VII. *Moses*, b. March 26, 1771; d. unmd.
9 VIII. *Relief*, b. Feb. 8, 1773; md. John Winch of Princeton.
10 IX. *Lucy*, b. May 12, 1775; md. Feb. 25, 1798, Levi Bigelow, then of Mount Holly, Vt.; removed to State of New York.
11 X. *John*, b. July 10, 1777; d. unmd.
12 XI. *Rebecca Barnard*, b. May 30, 1780; md. —— Rand.
13 XII. *Solomon*, b. Jan. 26, 1783; lived in Vermont.
14 XIII. *Betsey*, b. April 19, 1785; d. unmd.

(2) JONATHAN SAMSON, eldest son of Jonathan, was b. in Harvard. While an infant the family removed to this town. He md. Feb. 21, 1782, Susanna Rice, b. March 22, 1759, dau. of Zebulon Rice of Boylston, and a sister of Jonas and Reuben Rice of Ashburnham. Soon after his marriage he removed to Boylston, but returned to this town 1801, and lived on the old homestead. He d. Dec. 9, 1846; his widow d. July 30, 1850.

It is this Jonathan Samson whose prolonged service in the Revolution appears in Chapters V and VI. *Vide* page 186. He was deservedly a Revolutionary pensioner. The children were not b. in this town and a record is not found in Boylston. It is probable the order of age is not preserved in the following record.

15 I. *Mary*, b. July 24, 1783; md. Sept. 15, 1805, Ebenezer Clark, b. at Braintree June 8, 1779. They resided in this town a few years and subsequently lived in Brookline and Townsend. He d. Sept. 11, 1850; she d. Sept. 2, 1856. Several children.

16 II. *Dolly*, b. March 22, 1785; md. Henry Gipson, *q. v.*
17 III. *Jonathan*, b. Dec. 20, 1786.+
18 IV. *Margaret*, b. Feb. 17, 1789; md. John Trimnall, *q. v.*
19 V. ——, b. ——; md. —— Priest; lived in Canada.
20 VI. *Sally*, b. ——; md. April 12, 1821, Enoch L. Barrett of Mason, N. H., and removed to Michigan.
21 VII. *Abraham*, b. April 29, 1795.+
22 VIII. *Isaac*, b. 1800.+

(6) OLIVER SAMSON md. 1789, Abigail Sawin, b. 1769, dau. of Jonathan and Mary (Whitney) Sawin of Westminster, and a sister of Asa Sawin of Ashburnham. He lived in Ashburnham and was prominently connected with the Methodist Society. He d. Jan. 15, 1835; his wife d. Feb. 19, 1843.

23 I. *Nancy*, b. Aug. 22, 1790; d. Aug. 24, 1795.
24 II. *Abigail*, b. Aug. 15, 1792; md. 1817, Iddo Kilburn and lived in Hartland, Vt.
25 III. *Oliver*, b. April 16, 1795; md. 1822, Susan Bennett; lived in Westminster. His son, Otis M. Samson, is named in Buttrick register.
26 IV. *Nancy*, b. May 2, 1797; md. March 23, 1815, Luther Barrell of Westminster.
27 V. *Amos*, b. Feb. 16, 1800; md. 1821, Sarah Houghton of Winchendon. She d. Oct. 17, 1825; he removed to Cayuga county, N. Y.
28 VI. *Infant*, b. ——; d. 1803.
29 VII. *Mary*, b. Oct. 16, 1804; d. Oct. 25, 1805.
30 VIII. *Almira*, b. Oct. 30, 1806; md. Antipas Maynard, *q. v.*
31 IX. *Stephen*, b. Aug. 9, 1809; md. 1834, Sally Hale; resided in Ashburnham and in Winchendon.

(7) EPHRAIM SAMSON, son of Jonathan, md. Olive Gates and resided in the northeast part of the town until about 1802.

32 I. *Betty*, b. Dec. 4, 1794.
33 II. *Ephraim*, b. May 29, 1797.
34 III. *Jeremiah*, b. Feb. 21, 1799.
35 IV. *Levi*, b. Oct. 20, 1800.

(17) JONATHAN SAMSON, son of Jonathan, Jr., was b. in Boylston Dec. 20, 1786. He md. May 15, 1814, Betsey Gibbs, dau. of Joseph Gibbs, *q. v.* He was an innholder

in Rindge and at Factory Village a few years, and in 1830 he removed to the Joseph Gibbs farm now occupied by his son George G. Samson. He. d. Dec. 2, 1869. His widow d. July 18, 1870.

36 I. *Leander*, b. Jan. 25, 1815.+
37 II. *Jonathan Horace*, b. Oct. 23, 1816.+
38 III. *Elizabeth Laws*, b. Nov. 2, 1818; md. Jason Whitney, son of Ohio Whitney, *q. v.*
39 IV. *George Gibbs*, b. Sept. 26, 1820.+
40 V. *Charles*, b. Nov. 26, 1826; d. Dec. 1, 1836.
41 VI. *Mary Barrett*, b. Dec. 5, 1832; md. Luther B. Adams, son of James Adams, *q. v.*

(21) ABRAHAM SAMSON, son of Jonathan, Jr., md. 1816, Oldice Thomas, b. in Rindge Jan. 17, 1800, dau. of Francis, Jr., and Elizabeth (Gragg) Thomas. They resided in Canada and in the State of New York. He d. May 16, 1842; she d. Jan. 10, 1867. Eleven children.

42 I. *Oldice*, b. July, 1817; d. same year.
43 II. *George T.*, b. April 9, 1819; md. 1845, Olive (Edson) Tweel, who d. Aug 16, 1873; md. (2d) March 31, 1875, Ellen R. (Frost) Shattuck, dau. of Ebenezer Frost, *q. v.* He d. Oct. 21, 1879.
44 III. *Julia Ann*, b. Jan. 27, 1821; md. John Johns; lived in Ohio; d. July 9, 1846.
45 IV. *Augustus A.*, b. Sept. 28, 1822; md. 1846, Frances M. Partridge; d. in Medway about 1850.
46 V. *Charles Phillips*, b. June 20, 1824; d. young.
47 VI. *Henry K.*, b. Aug. 7, 1826; served in Co. I, 25th Regiment; md. Oct. 9, 1850, Amanda Lawrence of Malone, N. Y. He d. 1874.
48 VII. *Adaline C.*, b. Aug. 23, 1828; md. 1826, George P. Bennett, son of Asa Bennett, *q. v.*; she d. 1885.
49 VIII. *Oldice Elizabeth*, b. Sept. 5, 1830.
50 IX. *Euphenia*, b. July 28, 1832; md. June 4, 1848, John Roby; reside in Lynn.
51 X. *Sarah F.*, b. May 6, 1838; md. March 26, 1857, John A. Spaulding, son of Alfred and Betsey (Lawrence) Spaulding of Ashby. They resided in this town where he d. Jan. 29, 1887.
52 XI. *Susan Augusta*, b. Feb. 8, 1840; d. Sept. 1, 1859.

(22) ISAAC SAMSON, brother of Abraham, md. 1823, Melinda Barrett of Mason, N. H. He lived several years in Canada, but returned to this town where he d. 1855.

53 i. *Susan.*
54 ii. *Sarah.*
55 iii. *Arathusa.*
56 iv. *Mary J.*
57 v. *Isaac A.*, b. Jan. 29, 1831; md. 1860, Sarah L. Brown. She d. Feb. 9, 1862; md. (2d) April 25, 1864, Mary A. Bennett, dau. of Isaac Bennett of Groton. In 1886 he removed from this town to Harvard.
58 vi. *Charles B.*, b. 1837; md. Mary Heywood of New Ipswich; resides at Topeka, Kansas.

(36) Leander Samson is a farmer and owns and occupies the Jacob Fairbanks farm. He md. Oct. 27, 1838, Roana Newton; md. (2d) Oct. 22, 1875, Anna Chapman.

59 i. *Jane E.*, b. Sept. 30, 1839; md. John Milton Partridge of Winchendon.
60 ii. *Charles*, b. Jan. 9, 1844; served in the war of the Rebellion in Co. D, 30th Regiment; d. at Baton Rouge, La., Aug. 11, 1862.
61 iii. *Albert*, b. July 11, 1847; was in the service in United States Marine Corps 1861–5. At the close of the war removed to Albany, N. Y., and is a railroad conductor. He md. July 10, 1873, Josie Carlton, dau. of Joseph Carlton.
62 iv. *Ella Maria*, b. Jan. 3, 1851; md. Hubert C. Bartlett; they reside in Fitchburg.

(37) Jonathan Horace Samson, son of Jonathan Samson, Jr., resides in Worcester. He was principal musician and drum major 25th Massachusetts Regiment. He md. 1842, Rachel G. Adams who d. Feb. 26, 1881.

63 i. *Agnes Elizabeth*, b. June 23, 1843; md. Daniel G. Holbrook.
64 ii. *Infant*, b. and d. Jan. 11, 1845.
65 iii. *Abbie Augusta*, b. Oct. 6, 1846; md. J. Brainerd Hall. They reside at Worcester; he is Court Reporter of the *Worcester Gazette*. To his researches I am indebted for generous favors.
66 iv. *Flora Amanda*, b. March 13, 1848; d. Sept. 29, 1850.
67 v. *Alfred Hitchcock*, b. Aug. 8, 1850; md. Arabella Jones; resides at Providence, R. I.

(39) GEORGE GIBBS SAMSON is a farmer on the farm formerly of his grandfather Joseph Gibbs, and of his father Jonathan Samson. He md. 1847, Anjenette Tavener.

68 I. *Mary Georgianna*, b. June 20, 1848; md. Nov. 11, 1873, Capt. Charles H. Pratt, son of Russell Pratt of Westminster. He is captain of Co. E, and one of the selectmen of Ashburnham.

69 II. *Elizabeth A.*, b. March 20, 1850.

70 III. *Flora A.*, b. Nov. 11, 1858; md. Dec. 13, 1884, Leonard Eisentrant; reside in Worcester.

71 AARON SAMPSON, lineage not traced; resided in this town from 1765 to 1775. He md. Nov. 9, 1768, Delanah Schoffe, dau. of Jacob Schoffe, *q. v.*

72 I. *Infant*, b. ——; d. Aug. 2, 1771.

73 DAVID SAMPSON lived in this town a few years, commencing about 1775. He served in Capt. Henry's company in Boston Harbor 1779.

74 BENJAMIN SAMPSON was here a short time. He was in the service in 1778, but his name is not met after 1780.

SANDERSON.

EDWARD SANDERSON md. in Watertown Oct. 15, 1645, Mary Eggleston. From this marriage were descended numerous families of Sanderson in Watertown, Waltham and Weston. Dea. Jonathan Sanderson, son of Edward, was b. Sept. 15, 1646, md. in Cambridge Oct. 24, 1669, Abia Bartlett, b. May 28, 1651, dau. of Ensign Thomas Bartlett. His children were b. in Cambridge but subsequently he lived in Watertown. He d. Sept. 3, 1735; his wife d. Sept. 13, 1723. Samuel Sanderson, son of Dea. Jonathan, was b. May 28, 1681; md. April 13, 1708, Mercy Gale, b. Sept. 16, 1683, dau. of Abraham and Sarah (Fiske) Gale. He was killed by lightning July 8, 1722; she d. May 8, 1776. Moses Sanderson, youngest son of Samuel and Mercy (Gale) Sanderson, was b. Feb. 22, 1721-2; md. Jan. 1, 1750-1, Mary Flagg, b. Feb. 2, 1728-9, dau. of John and Hannah (Bemis) Flagg. In 1766 they removed to Littleton where he d. Aug. 10, 1798; his wife d. Sept. 18, 1789. Their third child was Moses Sanderson of Ashburnham.

1 MOSES SANDERSON was b. in Waltham Aug. 15, 1755, and bap. there July 18, 1756. At eleven years of age the family removed to Littleton, where he md. Mary Proctor, b. in Littleton Jan. 10, 1759. They resided in Littleton until 1789 when they removed to this town. He d. Jan. 29, 1831; she d. Nov. 3, 1842.

2 I. *Asa*, b. March 5, 1778; d. May 5, 1778.

3 II. *Polly*, b. Feb. 23, 1781; d. unmd. in this town Sept. 17, 1805.
4 III. *Sally*, b. Sept. 15, 1782; md. Philip R. Merriam, *q. v.*
5 IV. *Moses*, b. Sept. 23, 1784; md. 1819, Mary Whitcomb; he d. Oct. 23, 1841; she d. 1839. He was a farmer in this town.
6 V. *Asa*, b. April 29, 1787; d. unmd. in Salem Jan. 25, 1836.
7 VI. *Rebecca*, b. April 18, 1789; md. Elijah Brooks, *q. v.*
8 VII. *Simeon*, b. Sept. 24, 1790; md. Sally Bigelow. *Vide* page 510. Resided in Westminster where he d. Dec. 3, 1841.
9 VIII. *Lydia*, b. Sept. 30, 1793; md. Caleb Winchester, *q. v.*
10 IX. *Eli*, b. Sept. 17, 1795; md. Miranda Thwing. He d. in Brighton Sept. 28, 1839.
11 X. *Sophia*, b. Oct. 8, 1800; md. John Peirce of Brookline, Mass.

SAWIN.

The name of Sawin first mingles in the annals of Ashburnham in 1796, when Asa Sawin removed to this town and settled at the southern base of Mount Hunger. He was a descendant in the sixth generation of John Sawin, the emigrant ancestor, who was born in Boxford, county of Suffolk, England. He came to America between 1648 and 1650 and settled in Watertown, where he was admitted freeman May 26, 1652. He md. Abigail Munning, b. 1627, dau. of George Munning, who was the mother of his three sons John, Munning and Thomas. Munning Sawin, b. April 4, 1655, became a prominent character in Watertown. He was an assessor, selectman, treasurer and town clerk, and for thirty years he was conspicuous in town affairs. He md. Dec. 18, 1681, Sarah Stone, dau. of Dea. John and Sarah Stone of Watertown. He d. Nov. 28, 1722. The third of the eleven children of Munning Sawin was John Sawin, b. Aug. 18, 1689; md. Dec. 11, 1711, Elizabeth Coolidge, dau. of Obadiah and Elizabeth (Rouse) Coolidge of Sudbury and Watertown. She was the mother of his children and there is a tradition that after her death he md. a second wife and resided in Mendon, and d. there 1767. He was a constable in Watertown 1734, and a selectman 1736. The eldest of his eight children was Stephen Sawin, b. Sept. 17, 1712; md. Jan. 5, 1733-4, Abigail Fiske, b. Nov. 11, 1714, dau. of John and Mary (Whitney) Fiske of Waltham and Worcester. He was a farmer and shoemaker in Watertown until 1745, when he removed to Worcester, and in 1761 to Westminster, where he d 1795. She d. 1803. The extensive tract of land owned by Stephen Sawin was north of Wachusett mountain and southerly from Westminster pond. Jonathan Sawin, eldest son of Stephen Sawin, was b. in Watertown Jan. 2, 1734-5. He removed to Worcester, served in the French and Indian War, and with his father removed to Westminster in 1761. He md. Mary Whitney.

1 ASA SAWIN, the first of the name in Ashburnham, a son of Jonathan and Mary (Whitney) Sawin, was b. in Westminster, July 15, 1771. He was of the sixth generation of his family in America. He md. March 6, 1796,

Susannah Grimes, b. in Hubbardston May 23, 1772, eldest dau. of Joseph and Huldah (Wheelock) Grimes; the same year he removed to this town, and settled at the southern base of Mount Hunger. In character he was blameless, and in his daily life he was industrious and frugal. He d. 1828; his widow d. May 31, 1843.

2 I. *Susan*, b. Dec. 18, 1796; md. Joel Marble, *q. v.*
3 II. *Asenath*, b. Jan. 9, 1799; md. Hosea Green, *q. v.*
4 III. *Asa*, b. Oct. 4, 1801.+
5 IV. *Sally*, b. Oct. 29, 1804; md. Ebenezer Frost, *q. v.*
6 V. *Stephen*, b. Dec. 19, 1807; md. Dec. 8, 1830, Eliza Newton of Westminster.
7 VI. *Huldah*, b. Oct. 8, 1810; d. unmd. Feb. 2, 1834.
8 VII. *Abram*, b. Sept. 28, 1813.+
9 VIII. *Mary*, b. Aug. 15, 1819; unmd.; resides in Ashburnham.

(4) ASA SAWIN, JR., md. Dec. 1, 1827, Charlotte Phillips, b. in Fitchburg, ——, dau. of Joshua and —— Phillips. For many years he was a farmer on the homestead. During the past ten years the aged parents have found a home with their children in Gardner.

10 I. *John*, b. Nov. 13, 1828; md. June 20, 1850, Susan Kidder.
11 II. *Lyman*, b. Sept 20, 1830.
12 III. *Abbie*, b. Nov. 13, 1831; d. March 26, 1846.
13 IV. *Levi C.*, b. Aug. 11, 1838.
14 V. *Stephen*, b. June 4, 1842.
15 VI. *Mary E.*, b. July 24, 1847; md. May, 1868, Henry C. Cushing.
16 VII. *Melpha R.*, b. July 17, 1849; md. James C. Nichols, son of John Nichols, *q. v.*

(8) ABRAM SAWIN was a farmer in this town. In 1866 he sold the farm, now of Alden B. Marble, to his son-in-law Laban W. Wright, and removed to Gardner. He md. March 27, 1834, Loenza Pierce, b. in Westminster Nov. 18, 1816, dau of Jonas and Adaline (Haynes) Pierce. She d. in Gardner May 19, 1882; he md. (2d) Sept. 2, 1885, Mary R. Bigelow of Bolton.

17 I. *Susan Adaline*, b. June 11, 1835; md. Laban W. Wright, *q. v.*
18 II. *Jonas P.*, b. July 23, 1842; md. Nov., 1865, Sarah S. Metcalf, dau. of Joel F. Metcalf, *q. v.*; resides in Gardner. He is a foreman in the employ of Heywood Bros.

19 III. *Alfred S.*, b. May 11, 1849; md. Celia A. Bigelow; md. (2d) Alice M. Baker.

1 ASA SAWTELL, whose lineage is traced in History of Rindge, a son of Hezekiah and Sarah (Russell) Sawtell, was b. in Rindge March 18, 1789. He md. Nov. 8, 1812, Anna B. Hastings, dau. of Capt. Charles Hastings, *q. v.* They resided in Rindge six years, in Mason, N. H., a few years, and about 1825 removed to this town. He d. March 25, 1856; she d. Oct. 29, 1879.

2 I. *Ezra Hastings*, b. Dec. 11, 1813; md. Feb. 29, 1836, Betsey Scripture, dau. of James and Lucy (Dakin) Scripture of Mason, N. H. She d. in Warwick, R. I., July 29, 1853; md. (2d) March 26, 1856, Sultyna (Jones) Woods, widow of Asa Elbridge Woods, and dau. of Dea. Daniel Jones, *q. v.* They reside in Ayer, Mass. He has one child by his first wife.

3 1. Mary E., b. Feb. 23, 1837.

4 II. *Seth P.*, b. April 1, 1816; d. July 30, 1818.

5 III. *Mary A. B.*, b. Sept. 18, 1818; md. Jonas Morse. She d. Oct. 18, 1873.

6 IV. *Sarah J.*, b. Oct. 3, 1820; d. May 24, 1821.

7 V. *Eliza J.*, b. May 11, 1822; md. Henry Stevens. They resided in Caledonia, Wis., where he d. 1874. She resides in Racine, Wis.

8 VI. *Lucy R.*, b. March 11, 1824; md. John Bemis, *q. v.*

9 VII. *Sarah L.*, b. July 30, 1826; md. Lorenzo A. Fisher, and removed to New York city.

10 VIII. *Leonard W.*, b. June 30, 1829; md. 1853, Harriet L. Russell, dau. of Walter Russell; she d. Aug. 30, 1860; md. (2d) Maria Sawyer of New York city, where they reside.

11 IX. *Augusta E.*, b. Oct. 3, 1832; md. Dexter Russell, son of Walter Russell, *q. v.*

12 X. *Josiah P.*, b. Aug. 22, 1835; md. Feb. 9, 1858, Mary C. Foster, dau. of Jerome W. Foster. Reside in New York city.

13 CALEB SAWTELL, b. in Springfield, Vt., 1793, md. 1818, Lucy Stimson, dau. of Phinehas Stimson, *q. v.* They resided in Lansingburg, N. Y., until about 1824 and subsequently in this town. He d. Aug. 8, 1838.

14 I. *Mary E.*, b. Feb. 19, 1820; md. July 6, 1843, Aris Marcy; reside in Brookfield.

15 II. *Sarah L.*, b. June 15, 1822; md. William Lovejoy; reside in Brighton.
16 III. *George E.*, b. Aug. 17, 1825; md. Nov. 27, 1852, Mary M. Kendall, dau. of Alvin Kendall, *q. v.*; resides in Milford, N. H.
17 IV. *Lucy E.*, b. 1824; d. Aug. 10, 1832.
18 V. *Martha A.*, b. May 1, 1829; md. William Hall of Milford, N. H.; resides at Gold Hill, Nevada.
19 VI. *Harriet A.*, b. March 2, 1833; md. April 6, 1853, David Pearson of Milford, N. H.; she d. in Boston May 26, 1877.
20 VII. *Franklin*, b. May 12, 1835; md. Lucy A. Farwell; resides in Brookfield.
21 VIII. *Charles H.*, b. ——; d. in Milford, N. H.

1 EDWARD SAWYER, b. in Fitchburg March 7, 1804, son of Jabez and Hannah (Brooks) Sawyer, md. Oct. 25, 1827, Mary Lincoln, b. in Leominster March 16, 1802, dau. of Thomas and Abigail (Gibbs) Lincoln. He came to this town previous to his marriage and remained until his death. He was honest, sincere and pure in heart. He d. March 7, 1884; his wife d. Aug. 20, 1872.

2 I. *Abbie M.*, b. June 8, 1830; d. March 2, 1838.
3 II. *Charles E.*, b. Dec. 15, 1832; md. 1856, Maria J. Petts, dau. of Dr. John Petts; reside in Springfield, Ohio.
4 III. *Henry L.*, b. Feb. 23, 1840; md. Lucy Ann Fuller, b. in West Acton Feb. 26, 1838; resides in South Framingham.
5 IV. *Mary Nichols*, b. Aug. 26, 1842; graduate Mt. Holyoke Seminary, 1863; instructor Mt. Hermon School, Gill.
6 V. *Laura M.*, b. Feb. 8, 1845.

7 ABEL SAWYER, b. in Westminster Aug. 4, 1798, son of Eli and Anna (Laws) Sawyer, md. July, 1821, Lucy Holt and removed to this town 1831. His wife d. Dec. 29, 1842, aged 39; he md. (2d) May 27, 1845, Rhoda Weston, dau. of James Weston, *q. v.* She d. Dec. 23, 1855; md. (3d) May 13, 1856, Ann Kenney of Fitchburg; she d. May 23, ——. He d. April 9, 1883.

8 I. *Lucy A.*, b. July 28, 1822; md. Dec. 12, 1843, Solomon E. Jaquith of Ashby; she d. May 5, 1870.
9 II. *Abigail D.*, b. June 13, 1828; md. Jerome S. Gibson, *q. v.*

10 III. *Adaline M.*, b. Aug. 15, 1830; md. Ezra M. Merritt, *q. v.*
11 IV. *Sarah J.*, b. March 2, 1833; md. 1852, Andrew J. Adams, son of James Adams, *q. v.*
12 V. *Infant*, b. ——; d. Oct. 3, 1834.
13 VI. *Harriet A.*, b. March 28, 1837; resides unmd. in this town.
14 VII. *James W.*, b. Aug. 11, 1841; d. Aug. 29, 1851.

1 JACOB SCHOFFE was the possessor of a name that was a stumbling block to the recorders of his time. Mr. Cushing usually wrote the name as above. He came with his German associates in 1758, settled where Nathan and Oliver Taylor reside, and remained about twenty years, when he removed to Haverhill, N. H. Four youngest children were b. in this town. We have assigned to him daughters Elizabeth and Delanah, if they should prove to be otherwise connected with the family it would not contradict the record of their marriage. The name of the wife of Jacob Schoffe was Elizabeth.

2 I. *Delanah*, b. ——; md. Nov. 9, 1760, Aaron Samson.
3 II. *Elizabeth*, b. ——; md. July 30, 1767, Philip Christian Ger.
4 III. *Catherine*, b. July 6, 1759.
5 IV. *John*, b. Aug. 15, 1761.
6 V. *Daniel*, b. Aug. 26, 1764.
7 VI. *Henry*, b. Aug. 9, 1766.

1 GROVER SCOLLAY, son of John Scollay of Stoneham, was b. Oct. 10, 1729. In early life he removed to Harvard, where he md. Feb. 19, 1752, Lois Atherton, dau. of John and Phebe (Wright) Atherton. She d. in Harvard Sept. 7, 1778; he md. (2d) Nov. 4, 1779, Rebecca Harris, b. March 25, 1748, a sister of Dea. Jacob Harris, *q. v.* They removed to Ashburnham 1784. In their old age they lived with their son Ezra Scollay in Rindge, where he d. Jan. 12, 1816; she d. March 21, 1819. Nine children by the first and five by the second marriage.

2 I. *John*, b. Aug. 19, 1753; d. young.
3 II. *Ann*, bap. April 18, 1756; probably d. young.
4 III. *Sarah*, b. Feb. 22, 1759.
5 IV. *John*, bap. April 17, 1763.+
6 V. *Lois*, b. Jan. 27, 1766.

7 VI. *Lydia*, bap. Feb. 26, 1769.

8 VII. *Betsey*, bap. Sept. 1, 1771.

9 VIII. *Lucy*, bap. Oct. 9, 1774.

10 IX. *Grover*, b. ——.†

11 X. *Samuel*, b. Jan. 21, 1781. Dr. Samuel Scollay was a man of marked ability. *Vide* page 495. He md. Jan. 21, 1822, Harriot Lowndes, b. in Georgetown, D. C., Nov. 23, 1794, dau. of Charles and Eleanor (Lloyd) Lowndes; she d. Aug. 5, 1835; he md. (2d) Jan. 21, 1841, Sally Page Nelson, b. in Hanover county, Va., Dec. 10, 1801. He d. in Smithfield, West Virginia, Jan. 11, 1857. Eight children.

12 XI. *James*, b. March 24, 1783.†

13 XII. *Ezra*, b. March 8, 1786, resided in Rindge. He was an honorable man, pure in heart and refined in speech. He md. Dec. 31, 1807, Mersylvia Jewett, b. Nov. 4, 1786, dau. of Dea. Edward and Dorcas (Gates) Jewett of Rindge, and a niece of Col. Joseph Jewett of Ashburnham. She d. June 2, 1855, beloved and honored by all who knew her. He md. (2d) Oct. 14, 1856, Polly Hale, b. Feb. 8, 1788, dau. of David and Bathseba (Barker) Hale of Rindge; she d. Dec. 17, 1866; he md. (3d) Sept. 19, 1867, Mrs. Mary P. Moore of New Ipswich; he d. Nov. 10, 1874. No issue.

14 XIII. *Lucy*, b. March 31, 1788; md. March 24, 1823, Asa Farnsworth of Leominster; he d. June 18, 1831; she d. 1842.

15 1. Dorothy, b. March 17, 1826; md. April 26, 1848, Abel C. Chase, b. Feb. 1, 1824, son of George Chase of Leominster.

16 2. Ezra Scollay, b. March 28, 1830, a captain and brevet major in the Civil War, and was wounded severely while in the service; has been manager of *St. Louis Despatch;* subsequently a real estate agent at Newton. He md. May 22, 1854, Mary Frances Brown, b. Oct. 11, 1832, dau. of William Brown of Boston. He d. April 2, 1886.

17 XIV. *Abel*, b. June 16, 1790; removed to Canada.

(5) CAPT. JOHN SCOLLAY was a second and first lieutenant of the Ashburnham Light Infantry from 1792 to 1797 and captain a year or more commencing 1797. Subsequently

he removed to Newton and returned to this town for a short time about 1811. He again removed to Newton where he d. July, 1826. He md. Feb. 22, 1789, Lucy Hemenway, dau. of Ebenezer Hemenway, *q. v.* She d. Dec. 6, 1804. He md. (2d) Esther Thwing, and by this marriage there were three children.

18 I. *Lucy Hemenway*, b. Sept. 2, 1808; d. in Cambridge 1866.

19 II. *Sarah Chamberlain*, b. Sept. 29, 1810; md. Elijah Clark; she resides in Newton.

20 III. *John George*, b. 1812.

(10) Capt. Grover Scollay was an officer of the Ashburnham Light Infantry several years. He was a man of good ability and of genial manners. For many years he was a manufacturer of kid and morocco shoes and at times employed from ten to twenty men. He was twice married and in the progress of years his earthly treasures were more conspicuous in his household than in his land and gold. By industry he supported a numerous family and maintained friendly relations with his fellow-men. He md. Jan. 26, 1802, Sally Dickinson, dau. of Amos Dickinson, *q. v.*; she d. Nov. 19, 1805; md. (2d) May 22, 1817, Sally Stowell, dau. of John and Susanna Stowell of Temple. He d. Nov. 1, 1852; his widow d. in Templeton Jan. 15, 1887.

21 I. *Amos D.*, b. Feb. 7, 1803; md. 1825, Cinderilla Adams, dau. of John Adams, *q. v.*; she d. Jan. 24, 1831. He removed to Saxton's River, Vt., where he d. and where his widow, a second wife, resides.

22 II. *Sally*, b. Nov. 10, 1805.

23 III. *Infant*, d. Oct. 3, 1808.

24 IV. *Leonard*, b. Sept. 29, 1809; lived in St. Louis, Mo., and was proprietor at one time of Planter's Hotel.

25 V. *Nancy*, b. 1811; d. Nov. 1, 1825.

26 VI. *Infant*, b. and d, Nov. 16, 1815.

27 VII. *Susan W.*, b. Sept. 3, 1817; md. April 10, 1839, Dr. Edwin Leigh of Brooklyn, N. Y., and subsequently of St. Louis, Mo.

28 VIII. *George W.*, b. April 13, 1819; a physician in New York. *Vide* page 514. He md. Nov. 20, 1843, Elizabeth Stearns Wyman, dau. of Col. N. Wyman of Hillsboro', Ill.

29 IX. *Mary*, b. Feb. 8, 1821; md. Russell Whipple, *q. v.*

30 x. *Milton J.*, b. Feb. 18, 1822; md. Sept. 2, 1847, Mary W. Hastings, dau. of Joseph B. Hastings, *q. v.*; she d. in Brookline Jan. 11, 1862; md. (2d) Nov. 24, 1864, Sarah A. (Brewer) Stone, b. in Oakham Sept. 17, 1838. He has resided in Townsend, Westboro', Peabody, Harvard, Ayer, and is now a resident of Templeton.

31 1. George Grover, d. young.
32 2. Charles Augustus, b. Aug. 13, 1850.
33 3. Clara Lizzie, b. Oct. 20, 1853; md. March 29, 1883, Edward Willoughby.
34 4. Mary Addie, b. March 5, 1860.

35 xi. *Clarissa*, b. Sept. 12, 1824; md. Samuel B. Wright; resides in Georgia.
36 xii. *Charles N.*, b. Feb. 23, 1826; md. Jan. 7, 1850, Nancy C. Barrett, dau. of Townsend Barrett, *q. v.*
37 xiii. *Infant*, d. 1828.
38 xiv. *Albert*, b. Sept. 13, 1829; md. 1852, Augusta Stratton, b. in Rindge April 27, 1831, dau. of Samuel and Lovisa (Gibson) Stratton; she d. Oct. 6, 1873. Three children.
39 xv. *Edwin*, b. July 5, 1831; md. Nov. 27, 1862, Hattie M. Wilson who d. June 22, 1865; md. (2d) March 16, 1867, Louisa J. Hadley, dau. of David Hadley, *q. v.* He resides in this town.
40 xvi. *Joseph*, b. Aug. 13, 1833; resides unmd. in Newton, Ga. He is a planter and a merchant.
41 xvii. *Infant*, d. 1835.
42 xviii. *Elmira*, b. ——; d. young.
43 xix. *Lucinda*, b. ——; d. young.

(12) James Scollay md. April 2, 1807, Dolly Corey, dau. of Hezekiah Corey, and removed to Gardner where he was a farmer. He was an influential citizen and was much employed in town affairs. He d. Dec. 1, 1852; she d. ——.

44 i. *Dolly*, b. Nov. 8, 1808; md. April 16, 1829, Amasa Whitney, b. in Gardner June 19, 1805, son of William and Anna (Heywood) Whitney; resided in Gardner; he d. Jan. 21, 1871; she d. Oct. 25, 1843.
45 ii. *Sarah*, b. Sept. 10, 1810; md. Nov. 21, 1840, Dr. David Parker of Gardner, b. March 18, 1802, son of David and Martha (Carver) Parker of Westford; for many years Dr. Parker was

among the leading physicians of Worcester county; he d. 1886; she d. Jan. 26, 1870.

46 III. *James*, b. March 26, 1812; md. June 26, 1836, Lucy M. Young and removed to St. Louis, Mo., where he d. Jan. 14, 1874.

47 IV. *Charles*, b. Jan. 8, 1814; resides in Gardner; he md. Oct. 10, 1843, Elizabeth A. Garfield, b. in Troy, N. H., Dec. 27, 1816, dau. of Enoch and Lucy (Hodgkins) Garfield.

48 V. *Lucy*, b. Aug. 26, 1816; md. Nov. 24, 1836, Alfred H. Brick, b. Jan. 26, 1815, son of Elijah and Sally (Comee) Brick; she d. in Fitchburg Nov. 19, 1846.

49 VI. *Ezra*, b. April 9, 1821; d. Nov. 26, 1841.

1 JACOB SELLHAM was one of the German emigrants who settled on the Dutch farms. Probably he had a home with his son, Henry, as no mention of a wife or other children is found in the records. He d. in Ashby Aug. 27, 1769, aged about 60 years.

2 HENRY SELLHAM, with wife, Catherine, settled on the Dutch farms in the northeast part of the town 1758. He was elected to a minor office at the first town meeting 1765. At the incorporation of Ashby in 1767, his farm was included in that town. So long as he remained in Ashburnham his name was written Sellham or Selham, but as soon as he became a citizen of Ashby he was known as Sellenham. It is probable that he removed to northern New Hampshire about 1775. Three children were born in Ashburnham and one in Ashby.

3 I. *Jacob*, b. —— 22, 1761.

4 II. *Anna*, b. Feb. 24, 1763.

5 III. *Elizabeth*, b. Sept. 15, 1765.

6 IV. *Catherine*, b. Dec. 25, 1767.

1 JOSEPH SMALL, b. in Canterbury, N. H., son of John and Kezia (Jackson) Small, removed to this town 1855. He is a blacksmith; lives at North Village. He md. Nov. 19, 1846, Polly Tottingham, dau. of Moses Tottingham, Jr., *q. v.* There were children by a former marriage of Mr. Small; among them, Arvilla A. Small who md. Levi B. Tottingham, *q. v.*

2 I. *Joseph H.*, b. Jan. 9, 1853; md. April 11, 1878, Mary M. Elliot of Norton Creek, Canada. He

is a farmer and manufacturer of wood ware at North Village. Four children.

3 II. *Lyman P.*, b. Oct. 2, 1858.

4 III. *Hattie O.*, b. March 4, 1861.

SMITH.

DR. JOSHUA SMITH, a physician and prominent citizen of Shrewsbury, md. Sarah Prentice, dau. of Rev. John Prentice of Lancaster. He d. Jan. 20, 1756. Among their children were Joshua Smith, Esq., and John Prentice Smith of Ashburnham, who were first cousins of Rev. John Cushing. Sarah (Prentice) Smith md. (2d) April 12, 1759, Col. Timothy Brigham of Marlboro' and Southboro'. After his death she came to Ashburnham where she d. March 16, 1803, aged 88.

1 JOHN PRENTICE SMITH, son of Dr. Joshua and Sarah (Prentice) Smith, was b. in Shrewsbury Oct. 3, 1748. He md. Hepsibah —— and came to this town in 1771 or 1772. He was an innholder. He d. July 18, 1774; his widow removed to Southboro'.

2 I. *John*, b. Aug. 11, 1773.

3 JOSHUA SMITH, ESQ., a brother of John Prentice Smith, was b. in Shrewsbury March 21, 1745. He removed to Ashburnham in 1785 and occupied a prominent position in social and in town affairs. He formerly resided in Southboro' and had been a town clerk and a Justice of the Peace, but his commission was not renewed after his removal to this town, yet he was invariably styled Esquire Smith. He md. Abigail —— who d. in Southboro' Oct. 5, 1778; md. (2d) Joanna Stone, b. April 22, 1747, dau. of Rev. Nathan Stone, first minister of Southboro'; she d. Nov. 26, 1808; he d. March 2, 1826.

4 I. *Timothy*, b. Jan. 13, 1772.

5 II. *Sarah*, b. Sept. 10, 1773; d. Sept. 12, 1775.

6 III. *Sally*, b. Sept. 19, 1775; md. Jan. 11, 1796, Dr. Melzer Dwelly of Hanover; two or more children.

7 1. George Wilder, bap. Aug. 14, 1796.

8 2. Sally, b. ——; md. Asia Phillips, *q. v.*

9 IV. *Nabby*, b. Oct. 5, 1777; md. April 22, 1807, Dea. Josiah Willard of Petersham.

10 V. *Joanna*, b. March 8, 1783.

11 VI. *Molly*, b. March 7, 1784; d. unmd. June 1, 1823.

12 VII. *Joshua*, b. Dec. 16, 1785; md. April 18, 1809, Eunice Townsend, dau. of Reuben Townsend, *q. v.* He resided on the home farm with his

father and subsequently lived in Winchendon, where his five children were born, and in Townsend and in Bernardston. Late in life he removed to Westminster where he d.

13 1. Lucy, md. Leonard Mossman, son of John, *q. v.*
14 2. Eunice, md. Moses Richardson of Leominster.
15 3. Joshua, removed to Worcester.
16 4. Reuben Townsend, md. —— Allen and resided in Fitchburg.
17 5. Melzer, md. Rhoda Sanders and lived in Waltham.

18 VIII. *Sophia*, b. Oct. 24, 1787; md. April 8, 1817, Jacob Harris, Jr., *q. v.*
19 IX. *Flavel*, b. Oct. 3; d. Oct. 15, 1789.

20 JONATHAN WARREN SMITH, son of Jacob and Kezia (Warren) Smith, was b. in Shrewsbury Feb. 26, 1748. With wife Catherine he came to Ashburnham in 1774 or 1775. His name appears on the roll of Capt. Gates' company of minute-men in 1775. He removed in 1780 to Hubbardston.

21 I. *Alice*, bap. Aug. 27, 1775.
22 II. *Joel*, bap. May 4, 1777.
23 III. *Sophia*, bap. Feb. 21, 1779.

24 JOSEPH SMITH, b. in Westminster Oct., 1813, son of Jonas and Eunice (Hartwell) Smith, md. May, 1836, Abigail Cutter, dau. of Nathaniel Cutter, *q. v.* They resided in this town where she d. July 25, 1850. He d. in Lunenburg Sept. 9, 1858.

25 I. *Charles Edwin*, b. Jan. 25, 1838; md. Nov. 16, 1866, Lizzie Woodward; reside in Athol.
26 II. *Ellen Arvilla*, b. June 30, 1840; d. Jan. 6, 1843.
27 III. *Franklin Augustus*, b. Oct. 3, 1843; d. April 16, 1856.
28 IV. *Alfred Herbert*, b. Sept. 15, 1845; md. May 27, 1868, Emma J. Dudley; reside in Orange.
29 V. *Abbie Maria*, b. July 6, 1850; d. 1853.

30 SAMUEL DEXTER SMITH, a brother of Joseph, b. in Westminster Aug., 1815, md. 1838, Mary Barrett, dau. of Benjamin Barrett, *q. v.* She d. Dec. 31, 1839; md.

(2d) 1840, Celia F. Arnold of Lunenburg. He d. in Fitchburg Dec. 29, 1879. One child was b. in this town. No additional record has been received.

31 I. *Mary Elizabeth*, b. Oct. 31, 1842.

32 ANDREW J. SMITH, a brother of Joseph and Samuel D., was b. in Westminster Sept. 19, 1819; md. Aug. 16, 1848, Maria Savage of Fitchburg. He d. Aug. 17, 1880.

33 I. *Arabel M.*, b. Nov. 1, 1849; md. Nov. 1, 1875, Edward G. Newell of Ashby.

34 II. *Walter J.*, b. Sept. 21, 1851; md. Jan. 1, 1879, Emma A. Coggshall; he is a blacksmith and machinist in this town.

35 III. *Clinton J.*, b. Nov. 27, 1854; md. Nov. 25, 1875, Sarah Louise Stowell; resides in Winchendon.

36 IV. *Harlow J.*, b. Oct. 8, 1853; d. Oct. 1, 1854.

37 V. *Harlow R.*, b. Oct. 27, 1856; md. Aug. 27, 1879, Lorilla A. Holt, a farmer in Ashby.

38 VI. *Milton W.*, b. Aug. 14, 1862; d. Feb. 2, 1865.

39 VII. *Abbie W.*, b. May 1, 1866; d. March 13, 1868.

SPALDING.

This name was generally written Spaulding in the early records, but is rarely met in any form in this town during the past sixty years. Benjamin and James Spalding were early residents of this town; they were brothers and descendants in the fifth generation of Edward Spalding of Braintree and Chelmsford. The lineage is clearly traced in the Spalding Memorial. The second wife of James, the father of Benjamin and James Spalding, d. in this town March 21, 1812, aged, says Mr. Cushing, between 80 and 90.

1 BENJAMIN SPALDING was b. in Westford March 15, 1737–8. He was a son of James and grandson of Andrew Spalding. About 1760 he settled in the northeast part of Dorchester Canada, and his name appears in the minutes of the properietors' meetings and in the list of town officers chosen in March, 1767. In 1769 he was a petitioner to be annexed to Ashby, but his request was denied by the General Court. His name appears from time to time in the records, until he removed, probably before the Revolution, to Jaffrey, N. H. He md. 1759, Sarah Chandler, b. Feb. 3, 1738–9, dau. of William and Susanna (Burge) Chandler of Westford; she d. in Jaffrey Oct. 3, 1796. He md. (2d) April 29, 1797, Betsey Whitcomb Flood, widow of Dea. James Flood of Marlboro', N. H., and removed to her home, where he d. 1810. Of his eleven children it is probable that six were b. in this town.

2 JAMES SPALDING, a brother of Benjamin, was b. in Westford Aug. 31, 1748. He md. in Westford Sept. 26, 1769, Hannah Barron, b. July 17, 1747, dau. of Timothy Barron of Westford. He removed to Lyme, N. H., but settled in this town near Great Watatic, about 1773. It is probable he came at the time or soon after the removal of his brother. Living in the extreme part of the town he was closely allied in all social relations with the people of New Ipswich and attended church in that place. At the Lexington alarm it is claimed that he was a volunteer, and the absence of his name on the rolls of the two companies from Ashburnham would not be evidence that he was not a member of the New Ipswich company. In three volumes of local history, deservedly holding an enviable position in that field of literature, will be found reference to this military service in these words: "When the alarm of Concord fight was given he started immediately for the scene of action, while his wife and eldest son spent the afternoon of that day on the summit of Watatic, where they saw the smoke of the burning buildings and distinctly heard the report of the British cannon." It is fifty miles from Watatic to Concord, but the question of the distance is unimportant in this connection. The intelligence of the affray at Lexington and Concord did not reach Ashburnham and New Ipswich until the hostilities had ceased and the soldiers did not leave either Ashburnham or New Ipswich until evening. Even if the smoke could be seen in the distance to what burning buildings is reference made?

James Spalding continued a residence in this town, enjoying the respect and confidence of his townsmen. His wife d. Sept. 3, 1814; he md. (2d) Elizabeth Wilkins, widow of John Wilkins of New Ipswich, and subsequently resided in New Ipswich, where he d. June 8, 1832; his widow d. March 3, 1841.

3 I. *Jonathan*, b. Aug. 23, 1770.+

4 II. *James*, b. Jan. 17, 1772; md. in Dedham Jan. 6, 1796, Sally Fairbanks and settled in Lempster, N. H., near his brother Jonathan and sister Betsey, the wife of Nathan Jones. He d. in Acworth, N. H., Dec. 10, 1847; his widow d. March 11, 1848. Fourteen children.

5 III. *Hannah*, b. Sept. 26, 1774; md. Oct. 7, 1794, Abel Prescott of Groton, and d. Aug. 17, 1854; he d. Sept. 18, 1841.

6 IV. *Amy*, b. July 29, 1776; d. Sept. 10, 1780.

7 V. *Betsey*, b. Aug. 10, 1778; md. Nathan Jones, son of Enos Jones, *q. v.*

8 VI. *Nathan Barron*, b. April 30, 1780. He was a physician; practised his profession in Randolph and Montpelier, Vt.; d. in Manchester, N. H., May 17, 1861. He md. Dec. 8, 1807, Sophia Fish who d. Feb. 24, 1844; md. (2d) Sophia Haseltine. Eight children.

9 VII. *Mary*, b. Nov. 25, 1781; md. Jonas Nutting, *q. v.*

10 VIII. *Isaac*, b. July 8, 1783.+

11 IX. *Phinehas*, b. Jan. 16, 1785; d. Oct. 8, 1800.

12 X. *Sally*, b. July 15, 1787; d. Feb. 6, 1808.

13 XI. *Joseph*, b. July 5, 1791; md. 1808, Betsey (Hastings) Randall, dau. of Capt. Charles Hastings, *q. v.* He resided a few years in this town and d. in the State of New York 1815.

14 1. Sylvia, b. Feb. 21, 1809; md. May 29, 1827, Atherton Munroe.

15 2. Charles.

(3) JONATHAN SPALDING md. Nov. 29, 1792, Milly Bennett, dau. of Capt. James Bennett, *q. v.* He settled in Lempster, N. H., where he was a farmer and in the winter season a school-teacher. He was frequently chosen to positions of trust. In 1809 he returned to Ashburnham and lived on the homestead with his father. In 1814 he was stricken with paralysis; his father removed to New Ipswich and soon after he went to Jericho, Vt., where he d. Jan. 23, 1823; his widow d. Nov. 2, 1853.

16 I. *Sewell*, b. April 18, 1792. Enlisting at New Ipswich and serving in the New Hampshire forces he was at Portsmouth in the War of 1812. He md. 1820, Abigail Gilman and settled in Underhill, Vt., where he d. April 5, 1843.

17 II. *Hosea*, b. Dec. 27, 1794; md. Jan. 20, 1820, Lucy Kidder, dau. of John Kidder of Ashby; removed to Jericho, Vt.

18 III. *James*, b. Sept. 11, 1796; he was in the service at Portsmouth with his brother Sewell. He was stricken with fever and ever after was deaf. He was a great reader, a thoughtful, intelligent man. He md. Oct. 14, 1819, Sophia Kidder, b. Aug. 21, 1800, dau. of John Kidder; she d. Feb. 20, 1854; md. (2d) Jan. 6, 1859, Caroline Wetherbee. He resided in New Ipswich. Six children.

19 iv. *Alva*, b. June 11, 1798; md. Jan. 28, 1818, Lydia Taylor; d. at Glen's Falls, N. Y., April 9, 1856.

20 v. *Nathan P.*, b. March 27, 1800; d. Jan. 23, 1850; md. Mabel Bentley. No children.

21 vi. *Emily*, b. June 14, 1802; md. Feb. 18, 1822, Eber Bartlett of Jericho, Vt.

22 vii. *Amasa A.*, b. May 15, 1806; md. Jan. 10, 1833, Isabel L. Hyde; d. July 23, 1839.

23 viii. *Mary*, b. March 1, 1809; md. 1828, L. Woodward of Jericho, Vt.

24 ix. *Sophia*, b. Sept. 17, 1814; md. Harvey Hatch; removed to Hadley, N. Y.

(10) Isaac Spalding md. April 28, 1808, Lydia Brown who d. Feb. 6, 1836; md. (2d) April 27, 1837, Martha Leighton Parker, b. 1794, dau. of Reuben and Hannah (Hildreth) Leighton and widow of Addison Parker of Westford.

25 i. *William Safford*, b. May 4, 1809; *vide* page 500; md. Dec. 22, 1841, Harriet B. Nettleton. He d. June 10, 1884.

26 ii. *Josiah Worcester*, b. Nov. 14, 1810; md. Nov. 29, 1832, Emeline Wright; resided in Pepperell and in New Jersey.

27 iii. *Phineas Brown*, b. Oct. 14, 1815; md. Lydia Fish; removed to Beloit, Wis.

1 John F. Stacey, b. in Burlington, Vt., Sept. 8, 1844, son of John Stacey, md. Sept. 8, 1869, Nellie L. Dalrymple, b. Oct. 5, 1850, dau. of John Dalrymple. He removed to this town in 1872, and is a chair maker at South Village.

2 i. *Carl Leone*, b. July 15, 1877.

STEARNS.

Isaac Stearns, probably from Nayland, Suffolk, England, came to New England in 1630, in the ship with Gov. Winthrop, and settled in Watertown, Mass., near Mt. Auburn. He was admitted freeman May 18, 1631, which is the earliest date of such admissions. He was selectman several years, and in 1647, with Mr. Biscoe, he was appointed by the selectmen "to consider how the bridge over the river shall be built, and to agree with the workmen for doing it according to their best discretion." He d. June 19, 1671, leaving a widow, Mary, who d. April 2, 1677. The signature to his will is written Sternes, and in England the name has generally been written Sterne. The Anglo-Saxon of the name of the bird, the starling, which appears upon the coat-of-arms of this family, is *stearn*, and in other dialects it is *stern*, and and also *starn*, which is probably associated with the origin of the name. The present orthography has been more recently adopted.

John Stearns, son of Isaac Stearns, the emigrant ancestor, probably was b. after the settlement in Watertown and about 1631. He was one of the first settlers of Billerica, where his descendants have been numerous and have been conspicuous in the annals of that town. He md. Sarah Mixer, only dau. of Isaac Mixer of Watertown. She d. June 18, 1656; he md. (2d) Nov. 26, 1656, Mary Lothrop, b. Oct. 4, 1640, dau. of Thomas Lothrop of Barnstable. He d. March 5, 1668–9; his widow md. May 6, 1669, William French of Billerica, and md. (3d) 1687, Isaac Mixer of Watertown. Among the six children of John Stearns were John and Isaac whose descendants have been permanent residents of Ashburnham.

John Stearns, the eldest son, was b. in Billerica May, 1654; md. Elizabeth Bigelow, b. June 15, 1657, dau. of John and Mary (Warren) Bigelow of Watertown. She d. April 18, 1694; he md. (2d) Joanna (Call) Parker, widow of Jacob Parker and dau. of Thomas and Joanna (Shepardson) Call of Malden. He was a captain; "was much respected and had much influence." John Stearns, son of John and Elizabeth (Bigelow) Stearns, b. in Billerica Nov. 25, 1686, md. Esther Johnson, b. 1691, dau. of Edward Johnson of Woburn. He d. Aug. 2, 1776; his widow d. April 18, 1786. Hon. Isaac Stearns, son of John and Esther (Johnson) Stearns, was b. in Billerica June 16, 1722. He md. Feb. 11, 1747–8, Sarah Abbott, b. April 22, 1728, dau. of Obed Abbott of Bedford. He was a soldier in the French War, a representative, senator and a magistrate, and prominent in town and colonial affairs. He was one of the proprietors of Dorchester Canada and owned at different times many acres of land in the township. He frequently attended the meetings of the proprietors and was a controlling spirit in the organization. After the settlement of his sons in this town he was accustomed to visit them. In Sept., 1806, at that time 84 years of age and his wife 78, the aged parents rode from Billerica in one day and returned home a few days later. He d. March 23, 1808; she d. Jan. 9, 1815. Among their children were Isaac and William Stearns of Ashburnham. Another son, John, who resided in Billerica, was the father of Gov. Onslow Stearns of New Hampshire and of Franklin Stearns who md. Sally Lane, dau. of Benjamin, *q. v.*

Isaac Stearns, son of John and Mary (Lothrop) Stearns and a half brother of John who was b. 1654, was b. in Billerica Dec. 23, 1661, and after the death of his father was apprenticed to his step-father, William French. He md. Mary Merriam and resided in Billerica, where he d. 1739. His eldest son, Isaac Stearns, b. Aug. 21, 1701, md. Alice Wilson, b. Nov. 12, 1703, dau. of John and Elizabeth (Foster) Wilson. He d., leaving a good estate, Sept. 20, 1739; his widow md. Sept. 14, 1741, John Pollard; she d. Nov. 4, 1756. Elijah Stearns, son of Isaac, b. June 15, 1735, leaving the home of his ancestors, settled in Rutland. He md. Feb. 20, 1760, Lucy Lane, b. May 3, 1732, dau. of Job Lane and an aunt of Col. Francis Lane of this town. He d. Oct. 3, 1801; his wife d. Aug. 4, 1793. Capt. Josiah Stearns, son of Capt. Elijah, was b. in Rutland June 18, 1769; md. Jan. 28, 1795, Ruth Hunt of Milton and settled in Leominster.

1 ISAAC STEARNS, b. in Billerica June 13, 1770, son of Hon. Isaac Stearns, md. Dec. 18, 1777, Mary Crosby, b. May 16, 1754, dau. of Jessaniah and Mary (Hosley) Crosby of Billerica. He removed to this town in 1778 and settled in the northeast part of the town. He lived on intimate terms with his pastor, and, while living in the extreme part of the town, he was constant in attendance on the Sabbath and week-day meetings. He d. April 30, 1807; his widow d. ——.

2 i. *Betsey*, b. Aug. 30, 1778; d. unmd. Nov. 6, 1854.
3 ii. *Isaac*, b. March 12, 1780; d. June 16, 1781.
4 iii. *Isaac*, b. Oct. 28, 1781.+
5 iv. *Mary*, b. Feb. 19, 1783; md. April 29, 1806, Job Davis.
6 v. *Jesse*, b. Aug. 29, 1784.+
7 vi. *Sarah*, b. Feb. 4, 1786; md. Job Davis.
8 vii. *Martha*, b. Oct. 19, 1787; md. April 8, 1818, Capt. Sewell Fiske of Weston, son of Jonathan and Abigail (Fiske) Fiske. Eight children.
9 viii. *Orpah*, b. May 19, 1789; md. Joel Davis, *q. v.*
10 ix. *John*, b. March 11, 1791; d. unmd. Sept. 10, 1824. *Vide* page 497.
11 x. *Abigail*, b. Jan. 31, 1793; md. June 5, 1818, Chauncey Perry, b. Feb. 8, 1788, son of John and Abigail (Bigelow) Perry of Rindge; resided in New Ipswich. Their sons: John Philander, Albert and Isaac Stearns were clergyman. Chauncey, Jr., and Timothy were lawyers in Brooklyn, N. Y.
12 xi. *Alice*, b. July 11, 1796; d. May 28, 1812.

(4) Isaac Stearns md. Nov. 7, 1822, Belinda Bedlow, b. in Hingham Nov. 18, 1791, dau. of Stephen and Sarah Bedlow of Hingham and Ashby. This name was formerly written Badlam. From the date of his marriage until 1840 he lived in Rindge.

13 i. *Sarah*, b. Sept. 27, 1823; d. Feb. 12, 1824.
14 ii. *Isaac*, b. Sept. 24, 1825.
15 iii. *Sarah Whitney*, b. Dec. 24, 1827.
16 iv. *Albert*, b. Dec. 20, 1833.

(6) Jesse Stearns was a popular school-teacher over twenty years and was known as Master Jesse Stearns. In 1820 he removed to New Ipswich and since that date the Isaac Stearns family has not been represented in this town. Master Jesse Stearns was a man of quick intuitions, active and alert in his movements, and kind, honest and honorable in his intercourse with his fellow-men. He was a farmer and supplemented his other employments with that of surveyor and conveyancer. He md. June 6, 1811, Lucinda Davis, dau. of Josiah and Abigail (Hubbard) Davis of New Ipswich. He d. Nov. 18, 1866; his widow d. Oct. 9, 1868.

17 i. *Jesse George Davis*, b. Feb. 24, 1812. *Vide* page 499. In the notice of Rev. Stearns the date of

removal of the family to New Ipswich is incorrectly stated 1829 He md. June 27, 1843, Lucy Murdock of Rutland.

18 II. *Eveline Lucinda*, b. Feb. 16, 1814; md. Nov. 4, 1835, Rev. Samuel S. Tappan; she d. in Conway, N. H., March 27, 1850.

19 III. *Josiah M.*, b. June 17, 1818. *Vide* page 503.

20 IV. *Isaac C.*, b. Feb. 28, 1820; md. —— Wheeler; resides in Minnesota.

21 V. *Abigail M.*, b. July 24, 1822; md. Oct. 28, 1847, Rev. Senaca Cummings, b. in Antrim, N. H., May 16, 1847, son of Samuel and Joanna (Wyman) Cummings; a missionary in China. He d. in New Ipswich 1856.

22 VI. *Lucy E.*, b. April 13, 1824; md. Sept. 6, 1852, Rev. Charles Hartwell of Lincoln; a missionary in China; she d. in China.

23 VII. *John Newton*, b. May 24, 1829; secretary of the National Temperance Society in New York; resides in Brooklyn.

24 WILLIAM STEARNS, brother of Isaac, b. in Billerica Aug. 4, 1752, md. Sept. 25, 1777, Lydia Davis, and settled in this town 1778. For two or three years the brothers had been clearing land owned by their father and had been in this town a part of the summer season. Their houses were about one-eighth of a mile apart and the farm of William remains in possession of his descendants. He was a man of good ability and commanded in an eminent degree the respect and confidence of his neighbors. He d. July 12, 1826; his widow d. July 31, 1835.

25 I. *William*, b. June 19, 1778; md. Feb. 12, 1801, Betsey Davis, dau. of Dea. Thaddeus Davis of Bedford. He lived in Bedford, where he d. Sept. 29, 1823; she d. July 27, 1844. Six children.

26 II. *Lydia*, b. March 28, 1780; md. Samuel Foster, Jr., *q. v.*

27 III. *Solomon*, b. June 18, 1782; a merchant in New Orleans; d. unmd. Feb. 9, 1815.

28 IV. *Asa*, b. Oct. 14, 1784; *vide* page 494; d. unmd. Dec. 19, 1809.

29 V. *Timothy*, b. Sept. 1, 1786.†

30 VI. *Calle*, b. March 24, 1789; md. John Farrar, *q. v.*

31 VII. *Charles*, b. March 21, 1791; md. Oct. 19, 1821, Rebecca Converse, b. Feb. 18, 1794, dau. of Zebulon and Sarah (Merriam) Converse of

Rindge. He was an ensign of the militia in 1814, but soon removed to New Ipswich, where he d. March 6, 1838; she d. in Lowell Sept. 3, 1870. Four children.

32 VIII. *Roxanna*, b. May 7, 1793; md. Feb. 15, 1821, Rev. Amasa Jones, b. April 18, 1796, son of Asa Jones of Rindge. He was a missionary among the Indians. He d. in Missouri April 17, 1870; she d. Oct. 17, 1875.

33 IX. *Charlotte*, b. Sept. 8, 1795; md. Reuben Rice, Jr., *q. v.*

(29) CAPT. TIMOTHY STEARNS lived on the homestead of his father, now of his son Edwin J. Stearns. He was a captain of the militia, a town officer many years and an able, influential citizen. In 1843, without disposing of the farm, he set out with his family for Missouri. He d. during the journey and his family, after a brief residence at Little Osage, Mo., returned to this town. He md. Jan. 26, 1820, Eliza Adams, dau. of Capt. Ebenezer Thomas Adams, *q. v.* He d. Oct. 25, 1843; she d. July 18, 1883.

34 I. *Eliza Roxanna*, b. Jan. 2, 1821; md. Oct. 1, 1842, Cecil D. Ball of Little Osage, Mo. He d. Nov. 24, 1860; she md. (2d) June 2, 1863, Col. Robert W. McNeil. They reside at Nevada, Mo.

35 II. *Mary Adams*, b. July 21, 1822; md. June, 1844, Isaac D. Stearns, b. July 21, 1821, son of William and Betsey (Davis) Stearns, *q. v.* They resided several years in Missouri. She d. in this town July 11, 1854.

36 III. *Timothy Wray*, b. Sept. 30, 1824; d. Oct. 16, 1825.

37 IV. *Timothy Wray*, b. March 16, 1826; resided at Little Osage, Mo.; d. unmd. Oct., 1885.

38 V. *William Dike*, b. Feb. 17, 1828; d. unmd. Nov. 17, 1861.

39 VI. *Edwin Jewett*, b. Jan. 17, 1831; a farmer in Ashburnham; md. Nov. 27, 1862, Mary Elizabeth Weston, dau. of James A. Weston, *q. v.*

40 1. Edwin Weston, b. Aug. 20, 1863.

41 2. Nellie Lizzie, b. Dec. 9, 1871.

42 VII. *Emma Lincoln*, b. Jan. 30, 1833; md. April 26, 1862, Charles E. Burnap of Fitchburg; he d. ——; she md. (2d) Oct. 14, 1875, Jonas Wood,

b. Oct. 15, 1819, son of David and Mary (Earl) Wood. They reside in Rindge.

43 VIII. *Urania Anderson*, b. Oct. 23, 1835; md. Jan. 1, 1857, John P. Whitney, son of William and Fanny (Lincoln) Whitney of Ashby; reside in Ashby.

44 IX. *Joseph Henry*, b. Feb. 12, 1838; md. 1868, Martha C. Bradshaw; md. (2d) 1879, Addie Modrel, both of Little Osage, Mo., where he resides.

45 CHARLES STEARNS was b. in Leominster Aug. 23, 1796, son of Capt. Josiah and Ruth (Hunt) Stearns. He came to Ashburnham 1820 and for ten years owned and conducted the post route from Ashburnham to Worcester. He md. Jan. 1, 1824, Rebecca Greene Robbins, b. Feb. 9, 1802, dau. of Baruch and Polly (Bailey) Robbins of Sterling. He removed at the time of his marriage to the house in which he lived until his death, and which is still occupied by his venerable widow and their eldest daughter. About 1830 he sold the post route to Ivers White and was subsequently employed as a shoemaker. Mr. Stearns was a man of good ability, affable in manner and unfailing in kindness to his fellow-men. He was much employed in town affairs. He was a deputy-sheriff ten years. He served his townsmen as selectman and on many important committees and was town clerk twenty-four years. The records by him transcribed are in a plain hand and in lucid and concise terms. He d. suddenly, July 11, 1874.

46 I. *Emma Hobart*, b. Dec. 18, 1824; md. 1851, Charles Wright of Northfield, son of Phinehas and Betsey (Hunt) Wright. They resided in Worcester, Springfield, Ohio, and in Ashburnham, where he d. Jan. 1, 1880.

47 II. *Charles Lorenzo*, b. Aug. 31, 1826; d. 1839.

48 III. *Rebecca Hill*, b. Sept. 3, 1828; md. Capt. Addison A. Walker, *q. v.*

49 IV. *Josephine Pierce*, b. Sept. 3, 1830; md. Hartwell Tenney, *q. v.*

50 V. *Francis Barnet*, b. July 20, 1833; d. 1833.

51 VI. *George Henry*, b. Sept. 28, 1834; in the Civil War was a musician in the Brigade Band, Twentieth Army Corps; md. Jan., 1873, Martha J. Greene of Coleraine; resides in Ashburnham.

52 VII. *Cassius Clement*, b. Aug. 23, 1838; md. 1873, Gertrude Bottomly. His musical taste and ability were manifested at an early age, and his

proficient execution in boyhood is pleasantly remembered by the residents of his native town. He played the bass viol in the Congregational choir before his stature would permit him to reach the strings, and Mr. Miller, who was chorister at the time, made a cricket for him to stand upon. After a thorough study of the piano and organ with B. F. Leavens and of the violoncello with Wulf Fries, he removed to Worcester in 1859, where he has been organist and director of music in several church choirs. But he is best known as a teacher and composer of music. His compositions include masses, church music, piano studies and songs. Mr. Stearns has given an apt expression of his love of his native town and a sensitive appreciation of its scenic attractions in several musical compositions suggested by and dedicated to the mountains and lakes of the landscape.

53 LEONARD STEARNS, from New Ipswich, removed to this town in 1823. He resided on the old common and was engaged in trade a short time in the store formerly of the Cushing family and later of Charles Hastings and the Stimsons. In 1825 he returned to New Ipswich and in 1833 he removed to Lincoln, where he d. in 1834, aged 46 years. He md. Sarah Colburn of Lincoln. Among their children Richard H. Stearns of the well-known dry goods firm of Boston was b. in this town Dec. 25, 1824.

1 DAVID STEDMAN lived in Ashburnham from about 1774 to 1786. He was a soldier in the Revolution, an assessor 1781 and 1782 and is frequently named in the records, but his early and later record is unknown. There is no record in this town of his marriage but Jesse and Betty are witnesses of the fact.

2 I. *Jesse*, b. Dec. 11, 1781.
3 II. *Betty*, b. Jan. 8, 1784.

1 JOSEPH STEELE lived many years in the north part of the town. The cellar hole at the "Steele place" is the only visible witness of his home. He is a sprightly character in tradition and of no former resident of this town can one hear as much and learn as little. That he was a German is swiftly disputed by the assertion of others that he was an Irishman, qualified by a small

minority who think he might have been a Yankee or an Englishman. Leaving a fruitful field of conjecture we find his name in the certainties of life — the tax list and record of death. He came to Ashburnham about 1790 and d. Oct. 22, 1821, and an habitual doubt attended his decease as Mr. Cushing was uncertain of his age and records 85 or 86 years. His widow d. July 10, 1836.

STEVENS.

SAMUEL SMALL STEVENS of Ashburnham was a descendant of the Chelmsford family of Stevens, where his ancestors through several generations have resided. Samuel Stevens, a son of Richard Stevens, was b. in the Block House at Chelmsford 1708. He md. March 4, 1731, Ruth Wright of Westford and lived in Chelmsford, where he d. Dec. 21, 1792. Simeon Stevens, his son, b. 1735, md. July 19, 1764, Elizabeth Wright of Westford. He. d. in Chelmsford July 22, 1815. His widow d. 1821. Abel Stevens, son of Simeon, b. in Chelmsford in April, 1775, lived in Westford. He md. Oct. 12, 1802, Betsey Putnam, dau. of John Putnam of Fitchburg. Among their children was Samuel Small Stevens of Ashburnham.

1 SAMUEL SMALL STEVENS was b. in Westford March 30, 1807. He removed to this town in 1830 and for a short time he was in trade in the firm of Woods, Stevens & Co. He early began the manufacture of flag-seat chairs in this town. With succeeding years the business was enlarged and he built a new mill for its accommodation on the site of the present cotton factory, at the head of Water street. In this mill for a number of years a variety of chairs was manufactured and the business assumed a considerable importance among the early industries of the town. While a resident of this town he was a public-spirited citizen and a consistent advocate of the reforms and public enterprises of the time. In 1844 he removed to Baltimore, Md., and for many years was largely engaged in the manufacture of chairs and furniture. In this business his sons participated and the firm of S. S. Stevens and Sons was widely and favorably known in the South and the West. Mr. Stevens was a prominent citizen of Baltimore and was highly esteemed by all who knew him. Through life he was sincere and responsive to the voice of his convictions. In 1848 he was a nominee of the Freesoil party for presidential elector and through the war he was firm and uncompromising in his ready support of the Union. He d. Dec. 2, 1875, leaving bequests to charitable and educational institutions amounting to over fifty thousand dollars. He md. Nov. 16, 1830, Patty Osgood, b. in Westford 1809, dau. of Jacob and Patty (Fletcher) Osgood and granddau. of Pelatiah Fletcher, *q. v.*

2 i. *Martha Augusta*, b. April 3, 1833; d. May 25, 1834.

3 ii. *Samuel Augustus*, b. May 11, 1836. For the past twenty or more years he has resided in Norfolk, Va., and is the founder of the carpet and furniture house of S. A. Stevens & Co. In this business he was successful. He has retired from active business and has been succeeded by his son. He has frequently been elected to positions in municipal affairs and has served many years in City Council and was recorder three years. His loyalty to his native town is fully attested by frequent visits to the familiar scenes of his childhood. He md. June 15, 1857, Frances Swan Ames, dau. of Samuel S. Swan of Westminster. Her mother md. (2d) Jacob Ames and the name was legally assumed.

4 iii. *Charles P.*, b. April 11, 1840. He was associated with and succeeded his father in the furniture business in Baltimore. In 1880 he removed to Minneapolis, Minn., and is there an active merchant. He md. April 25, 1861, Mary E. Neilson, dau. of Robert Neilson of Baltimore, Maryland.

5 iv. *Francis Putnam*, b. Oct. 4, 1842. He resides in Baltimore and is successfully engaged in the practice of law. He has occupied many positions of trust and at the age of twenty-four was elected to the Maryland Senate, and has frequently been a member of the City Council. He md. Sept. 27, 1864, Alexina Bouldier, dau. of Alexander Bouldier of Baltimore, Md.

STEVENS.

The lineage of George F. Stevens is traced to the early settlement of Andover. He is of the eighth generation from John Stevens whose name is preceded by only four in an ancient list of the first inhabitants of Andover. It is known that he settled there previous to 1644. He d. 1662, leaving sons: John; Nathan, b. 1644, the first male child b. in Andover; Ephraim, b. 1649; Joseph and Benjamin, b. 1657. Of these none left sons to continue the name except John and Joseph. John, the eldest son, was b. before the removal of the family to Andover; he md. June 13, 1662, Hannah Barnard, dau. of Robert Barnard; she d. March 13, 1675; he md. (2d) Aug. 10, 1676, Esther Barker, dau. of Richard Barker. John Stevens, son of John and Hannah (Barnard) Stevens, b. Aug. 30, 1663, md. Dec 20, 1689, Ruth Poor. Their son John, b. Sept. 20, 1690, md. April 28, 1717, Elizabeth Chandler and had sons: John, Isaac, Thomas, Jonathan, Daniel, Bemsley and Simon. Of these Daniel Stevens, b. Jan. 27, 1728–9, not being the eldest son as had been the fortune of his ancestors through four generations, removed from the ancestral hive and became one of the early settlers of Souhegan West,

now Amherst, N. H. He md. in Andover Sept. 25, 1750, Hannah Barker of Methuen. He d. in Amherst, N. H., May 30, 1806; she d. May 23, 1815. Daniel Stevens, Jr., b. April 8, 1751, md. 1771, Susannah Abbott, b. Dec. 20, 1753. He. d. in Amherst, N. H., March 2, 1825; she d. May, 1830. Daniel F. Stevens, son of Daniel Stevens, Jr., b. Oct. 3, 1794, was a prominent citizen and for many years a merchant of Amherst, N. H., where he d. Jan. 21, 1852. He md. May 17, 1832, Sophronia (Holt) Winchester, widow of William Winchester, *q. v.*; she d. May 13, 1866.

1 GEORGE F. STEVENS, son of Daniel F. and Sophronia Stevens, was b. in Amherst, N. H., Nov. 28, 1838. He was a merchant several years and town clerk of Amherst, N. H. After a brief residence in Minneapolis, Minn., he removed to Ashburnham in 1873. During his residence in this town he has been connected with the First National Bank, of which he has been cashier nearly eight years and a director since 1881. He is one of the trustees of Cushing Academy and since 1879 he has been the treasurer of the corporation. In connection with these employments he is conducting a general insurance business and is dealing extensively in mortgage bonds and approved securities. During the past ten years Mr. Stevens has been elected town clerk and in this and other public affairs he has rendered the willing service of a good citizen. As a member of the committee of publication of the History of Ashburnham his counsel has been sought and his timely suggestions have rendered more complete many features of the work. He md. June 6, 1866, Mary Elizabeth Fletcher, dau. of Robert and Mary (Cochrane) Fletcher of Amherst, N. H.

STICKNEY.

The families of Stickney are numerous in this country but do not appear in the records of this town until 1871. The lineage of the general family is presented in "The Stickney Family" published in 1869. The American generations from Rowley to Ashburnham are William and Elizabeth Stickney, English ancestors who settled in Rowley in 1637; Samuel and Julian (Swan) Stickney of Rowley and Bradford; Samuel and Mary (Haseltine) Stickney of Bradford; Abraham and Abigail (Hall) Stickney of Billerica and Tewksbury; Abraham and Sarah (Kittredge) Stickney of Tewksbury; Joseph and Abigail (Jewett) Stickney of Townsend and Alvah and Rebecca W. (Spaulding) Stickney of Townsend.

1 DR. ALONZO LAWRENCE STICKNEY, b. in Townsend May 26, 1835, son of Alvah and Rebecca W. (Spaulding) Stickney, removed to this town in 1871. *Vide* page 473. He md. Nov. 6, 1867, Elizabeth A. Hill of Sutton.



RESIDENCE OF ALONZO L. STICKNEY, M. D.

STIMSON.

JONATHAN STIMSON of Watertown Farms, now Weston, was admitted freeman April 18, 1690. He was a witness in court Sept. 8, 1674, and gave his age as thirty years. He md. Elizabeth Stubbs, dau. of Joshua and Abigail (Benjamin) Stubbs. He d. Dec. 22, 1692. His eldest son was James Stimson, b. 1674. He md. Jan. 1, 1698–9, Bethia Mansfield and d. in Weston Feb. 18, 1744–5; his widow d. May 2, 1753. Among their eight children was Nathaniel Stimson, b. Aug. 10, 1709. He md. April 6, 1737, Elizabeth Myrick, b. Dec. 16, 1720, dau. of John and Abigail (Harrington) Myrick of Weston. He d. in Weston May 24, 1761; his widow md. (2d) April 8, 1779, Samuel Child, b. Feb. 5, 1718–19, son of Daniel and Beriah (Bemis) Child, his third marriage. Of the ten children of Nathaniel and Elizabeth (Myrick) Stimson, the two youngest were Lemuel and Phineas of Ashburnham.

1 LEMUEL STIMSON, son of Nathaniel, was b. in Weston July 11, 1758. He was a soldier in the Revolution, participating in the battle of Bunker Hill and in a campaign at Ticonderoga. He md. June 1. 1780, Phebe Felton of Petersham, and the same year removed to Ashburnham, buying land, and soon after building a house which he occupied many years. He was one of the original Methodists in this town and was connected with them until his death. His wife d. Sept. 17, 1830; he md. (2d) May 9, 1833, Catherine Goodale; he d. Sept. 22, 1840.

2 1. *Polly*, b. Nov. 5, 1780; md. Artemas Jackson of Newton. She d. March 18, 1806.

3 II. *Lydia*, b. July 26, 1782; d. Sept. 16, 1782.
4 III. *Phebe*, b. Sept. 18, 1783; md. James Whitmore, *q. v.*
5 IV. *Amos*, b. Dec. 6, 1785; d. March 14, 1795.
6 V. *Royal*, b. March 6, 1788.+
7 VI. *Lemuel*, b. Aug. 7, 1790; d. Dec. 25, 1791.
8 VII. *Edward*, b. Oct. 3, 1792.+
9 VIII. *Charles*, b. May 9, 1795.+
10 IX. *Abigail*, b. May 24, 1797; md. Isaac Keyes of Cambridge; she d. June 24, 1861.
11 X. *Lucy*, b. Aug. 20, 1799; md. Dea. John C. Davis, *q. v.*
12 XI. *Elmira*, b. Dec. 4, 1802; md. Oct. 10, 1826, Benjamin Whitney, b. May 25, 1802, son of Benjamin and Nancy (Fuller) Whitney. They resided in Marlboro', N. H., where she d. May 12, 1862. Three children.
13 XII. *Elbridge*, b. April 6, 1806.+
14 XIII. *Mirick*, b. Aug. 15, 1808.+

(6) ROYAL STIMSON removed in early life to Cambridge, where he was engaged in the livery business and in the sale of wood. In business he was methodical, exact and successful. In his daily life he was above reproach and was respected by his neighbors and business associates. To the deserving charities that appealed to his generosity and philanthropy he was responsive, and his benefactions were many and liberal. To his memory shall be inscribed, "Blessed is he that considereth the poor." He md. Sept. 2, 1813, Relief Walker, b. in Merrimack, N. H., July 22, 1787, dau. of Capt. Zaccheus Walker, *q. v.* He d. in Cambridge Nov. 4, 1860; she d. ——.

15 I. *Fordyce*, b. March 19, 1814; md. Sarah Hersey; md. (2d) Mary Lord. He resides in Cambridge where he has honorably filled many positions of trust.
16 II. *Royal W.*, d. young.
17 III. *Amelia B.*, b. April 5, 1818; md. May 4, 1843, Andrew N. Wyeth, b. April 29, 1817, son of Job and Lydia (Converse) Wyeth; reside in Cambridge.
18 IV. *Royal W.*, b. March 10, 1820; d. young.
19 V. *Ann M.*, b. Oct. 20, 1822; md. David N. Chamberlain. He is a merchant and a respected citizen in Cambridge.
20 VI. *Charles E.*, b. Feb. 27, 1825; d. March 26, 1828.
21 VII. *Rebecca F.*, b. Oct. 22, 1827; d. March 7, 1836.

(8) EDWARD STIMSON md. May 24, 1818, Sarah Foster, b. April 6, 1794. In 1822 they removed to Winchester, N. H., where he d. Aug. 8, 1843; his widow d. in Medford Feb. 14, 1866.

22 I. *Edward F.*, b. June 17, 1819; resides in Winchester, N. H.
23 II. *Emeline*, b. Feb. 7, 1821; md. Joshua Fletcher, *q. v.*
24 III. *Warren J.*, b. Feb. 13, 1823; d. Sept. 21, 1825.
25 IV. *Alden M.*, b. Oct. 24, 1825; d. in Medford Nov. 16, 1878.
26 V. *Emory G.*, b. Dec. 8, 1828.
27 VI. *James F.*, b. Aug. 29, 1831; d. March 28, 1832.
28 VII. *Arvilla W.*, b. Nov. 4, 1833.
29 VIII. *Charles M.*, b. July 19, 1836.
30 IX. *Royal D.*, b. Oct. 15, 1837.

(9) CHARLES STIMSON md. May 30, 1820, Beulah Whitmore, dau. of Isaac Whitmore, *q. v.* He was engaged in wool carding on the North Turnpike several years. He d. Feb. 26, 1830; she d. Feb. 5, 1869.

31 I. *Almira W.*, b. May 29, 1826; md. Alfred Whitmore, *q. v.*
32 II. *Aurelia Felton*, b. Oct. 15, 1828; md. July 3, 1855, Varamus P. Parkhurst of Templeton. She d. in Templeton May 12, 1862.

(13) ELBRIDGE STIMSON md. June 5, 1833, Elizabeth Caldwell, dau. of John Caldwell, *q. v.*; she d. Nov. 15, 1878. In early life he was a merchant a few years on the old common, and subsequently has been actively engaged in manufacturing and tanning. In his business he has been exact and methodical and has been successful. He has been an assessor and town treasurer.

33 I. *Frederic*, b. May 27; d. May 28, 1835.
34 II. *Charles L.*, b. Aug 15, 1836. *Vide* page 462. He is a machinst and iron founder at Rutland, Vt. He md. Frances H. Mansfield.
35 III. *Albert E.*, b. March 5, 1840; d. Feb. 6, 1845.

(14) MIRICK STIMSON began as a merchant on the old common and was in trade several years in Gardner. For the past twenty years he has conducted a store at Lane Village. He was formerly a member of the Ashburnham Light Infantry, and has been an overseer of the poor and

a selectman. He md. Sept. 14, 1834, Sarah J. Barrett, dau. of Col. Charles Barrett, *q. v.* She d. Oct. 22, 1843; md. (2d) April 17, 1844, Charlotte E. D. Salisbury, b. in Lee, Vt., Jan. 31, 1821.

36 i. *Sarah Elizabeth*, b. May 22, 1835; d. Aug. 19, 1835.

37 ii. *Charles*, b. Sept 4, 1837; d. Nov. 19, 1846.

38 iii. *Sarah Delia*, b. May 13, 1845; md. Nov. 19, 1868, Arthur Wells Field, b. Oct. 2, 1846, son of Dexter and Celinda (Spooner) Field; reside in Chelsea.

39 iv. *Charles Mirick*, b. Sept. 29, 1847; md. Sept. 13, 1876, Flora M. Tuckerman, dau. of Henry Tuckerman, *q. v.*; resides in Worcester.

40 v. *Frederic Salisbury*, b. June 3, 1853; md. Nov. 25, 1874, Ellen L. Davis; md. (2d) Nov. 10, 1881, Laura Agnes Dodwell. He is a commision merchant in Boston.

41 Phineas Stimson, a brother of Lemuel, was b. in Weston March 6, 1761, and came to Ashburnham about 1785, where he resided until his death. He md. Dec. 1, 1785, Lucy Lawrence. He d. Oct. 21, 1828.

42 i. *Sally*, b. June 13, 1786; md. Dec. 12, 1822, Jacob Stickney, b. in Lunenburg Feb. 8, 1770, son of Oliver and Hannah (Stiles) Stickney. They lived in Fitchburg, where he d. April 18, 1857; she d. 1832. One child.

43 ii. *Betsey*, b. Nov. 8, 1787.

44 iii. *Dolly*, b. Feb. 26, 1789; md. Dec. 26, 1816, Elijah Carter of Fitchburg.

45 iv. *Reuben*, b. Sept. 25, 1791; resided in Boston and in Walpole, N. H., where he d. No record of his family has been secured.

46 v. *Phineas*, b. April 26, 1794; md. Jan. 30, 1817, Rhoda Metcalf; resided in Milford, N. H., where both died.

47 vi. *John*, b. Nov. 1, 1797; d. Sept. 30, 1800.

48 vii. *Lucy*, b. Jan. 31, 1801; md. Caleb Sawtell, *q. v.*

49 viii. *Beulah*, b. Aug. 31, 1804; md. ——.

50 ix. *Lawrence Pitt*, b. June 16, 1806; d. Dec. 24, 1821.

1 Solomon H. Stoddard, b. in Chesterfield, N. H., Nov. 27, 1819, son of Charles and Lovisa (Brigham) Stoddard. He md. Feb. 10, 1858, Ellen Willard, dau. of Silas

Willard, *q. v.* He is a carpenter. With exception of a brief residence in Brattleborough, Vt., and in Fitchburg, he has resided in this town over thirty years.

2 I. *Cora H.*, b. Dec. 6, 1858; md. March 20, 1879, Merrit H. Holton of Fitchburg. He d. May 30, 1884.
3 II. *C. Mabel*, b. Feb. 27, 1861; d. Sept. 25, 1861.
4 III. *Leslie Willard*, b. May 24, 1862.
5 IV. *Bertha Belle*, b. Sept. 25, 1868.

1 EPHRAIM STONE, with wife and sons Oliver and Joseph, came to this town from Harvard in 1767. He was at this time about sixty years of age. A record of his marriage has not been secured and I am unable to trace his lineage. Many letters have been written and only a few have been answered. He was a selectman 1770 and for several years he is frequently named in the records. He d. Nov. 9, 1789, aged 83 years; his wife d. Nov. 6, 1789. It is probable there were other children but I have found record of only two.

2 I. *Oliver*, b. Aug. 22, 1739.+
3 II. *Joseph*.+

(2) OLIVER STONE, son of Ephraim, removed from Harvard 1767. In 1775 he was a sergeant in Capt. Davis' company of minute-men. At this time he was one of the board of selectmen. In subsequent years he was frequently elected to office and was an influential citizen. He md. Dec. 30, 1762, Lucy Willard, b. Aug. 26, 1743, dau. of Tarbell and Rachel (Haskel) Willard. He d. June 17, 1813; his wife d. Oct. 11, 1806.

4 I. *Oliver*, b. Jan. 28, 1764.+
5 II. *Lucy*, b. Feb. 8, 1766; md. Willard Lane, *q. v.*
6 III. *Rachel*, b. Dec. 5, 1768; deaf and dumb; she d. unmd. May 27, 1837.
7 IV. *Ephraim*, b. Dec. 30, 1770; he was an eminent physician of Harvard.
8 V. *Dolly*, b. March 24, 1773; md. 1806, Henry Bacon of Boston; he d. Feb. 21, 1838; she d. Oct. 13, 1856.
9 VI. *Hosea*, b. Sept. 3, 1776.+
10 VII. *Joseph*, b. Sept. 22, 1783; resided in Harvard. No record of his family has been received. Among his children is Joseph Lyman Stone of the firm Stone and Downer, Custom House brokers of Boston.

11 VIII. *Emma*, b. May 22, 1787; md. Moses Watson of Rochester, N. H.; she d. Oct. 26, 1838, leaving six children.

(3) JOSEPH STONE, son of Ephraim, was a drummer in Capt. Gates' company 1775 and was in the service in New Jersey in 1778. He md. Feb. 2, 1773, Susanna Gates. He was a farmer and lived on the farm now owned by the town. He was styled Capt. Stone but no record of his commission has been found. He was the principal advocate in this town of the county road leading from Winchendon to Leominster and passing by his farm. His wife d. Sept. 11, 1814, aged 61 years.

12 I. *Milly*, b June 2, 1773; md. John Corey, *q. v.*

13 II. *Joseph*, b. June 20, 1775; md. March 5, 1799, Dorothy Wilder, dau. of Samuel Wilder, Esq., *q. v.*, and removed from town two or three years after marriage.

14 1. Horace Wilder, bap. May 25, 1800.

15 III. *Ezra*, b. Feb. 1, 1778; succeeded his father on the homestead which he sold to Joseph Davis, who sold it to the town. He md. 1806, Charlotte Cooper of Westminster, b. 1780, dau. of Jedediah and Mary (Hall) Cooper. They had children: Mary, Chauncy and Alanson, and about 1840 removed to Milwaukee, Wis.

16 IV. *Matilda*, b. Nov. 28, 1781; md. Josiah White, *q. v.*

17 V. *Amos D.*, b. Feb. 8, 1788; md. Feb. 23, 1809, Nancy Hayden.

18 VI. *Ephraim*, b. Oct. 1, 1791; d. Oct. 7, 1794.

19 VII. *Lucy*, b. Dec. 6, 1793; md. Jonas Corey, *q. v.*

(4) OLIVER STONE, son of Oliver, md. Nov. 2, 1784, Nancy Clark. He lived at the centre of the town, where he d. Sept. 11, 1794. His widow d. Jan. 19, 1837.

20 I. *Nancy*, b. Feb. 13, 1786; md. Benjamin Barrett, *q. v.*

21 II. *Betsey*, b. May 14, 1792; md. Oliver Barrett, *q. v.*

(9) COL. HOSEA STONE, son of Oliver, was a hatter in Central Village. His name frequently appears in the chapters of this volume and is honorably enrolled in the annals of Ashburnham. He was town clerk, selectman, representative and often chosen on important committees.

In military affairs he manifested an equal interest and was a popular and efficient officer. He was a captain of the Light Infantry 1818–20, and subsequently a major and lieutenant-colonel of the regiment. He was not merely a prominent citizen in a quiet era of the town's history, but he was a strong man among able associates, successfully competing for honors with the Jewetts, George R. Cushing, Esq., Silas Willard, Esq., Col. Charles Barrett, Reuben Townsend, Esq., Col. Enoch Whitmore and other worthies of his time. He md. Nov. 27, 1806, Betsey Gibson, b. Dec. 24, 1779, dau. of Dea. Samuel and Dolly Gibson of Fitchburg and a sister of the wife of Ensign John Adams. He d. Sept. 22, 1850; his wife d. April 18, 1846.

22 I. *Hosea Gibson*, b. Aug. 14, 1809.+

(22) Hosea G. Stone md. July 2, 1846, Esther P. Adams, dau. of Milton Adams, *q. v.* He was a kind neighbor and a worthy citizen. He d. Jan. 21, 1885. The homestead opposite the school-house in the first district is retained and occupied by the family.

23 I. *Betsey*, b. Dec. 7, 1749; md. Sept. 19, 1878, Eli H. Derby.
24 II. *Esther*, b. Sept. 3, 1850; d. April 22, 1855.
25 III. *Hosea*, b. Oct. 20, 1853.
26 IV. *Joseph*, b. Oct. 8, 1855; d. May 23, 1862.
27 V. *Ephraim*, b. June 23, 1858; md. Dec. 16, 1885, Mary L. Howe, dau. of Orange E. Howe, *q. v.*
28 VI. *Esther*, b. Aug. 27, 1859.
29 VII. *Oliver*, b. Aug. 14, 1861.
30 VIII. *Emma W.*, b. Sept. 19, 1864.
31 IX. *Joseph*, b. Feb. 10, 1870.

32 Samuel Stone lived in this town a few years immediately preceding the Revolution. It is possible that he was a son of Ephraim and a brother of Oliver and Joseph Stone, and if so he probably came to this town in 1767. He md. Dec. 28, 1773, Elizabeth Rich, dau. of John Rich, *q. v.* He d. Jan. 3, 1775, aged 24 years. In regard to the circumstances of his death, Mr. Cushing says: "He perished in consequence of getting lost. He left his house Wednesday morning and having lost the points of compass he wandered that day and night and was not found and brought home until Saturday night. He was a pitiful object; his feet were frozen as hard as flesh could be. He died Sabbath night in great anguish."

33 i. *Samuel*, b. April 20, 1775; posthumous.

34 Dea. Peter Stone was b. Nov. 28, 1757; he was a son of Rev. Nathan Stone, the first minister of Southboro'. He md. May 26, 1782, Elizabeth Estabrook and removed to this town in 1786 or 1787. He was chosen deacon 1788 and removed to Townsend 1799.

35 i. *Windsor*, b. Jan. 25, 1786.
36 ii. *Peter*, b. May 13, 1788.
37 iii. *Betsey*, b. July 17, 1791.
38 iv. *Abigail*, b. April 14, 1794.
39 v. *Nathan*, bap. Feb. 5, 1797.

40 John C. Stone removed to this town 1879. He is a son of Ai and Harriet (Hadley) Stone (*vide* Hadley register), a grandson of Benjamin and Lucy (Wheeler) Stone and great-grandson of Samuel and Martha (Wilder) Stone. Samuel Stone was from Groton and settled at an early date in Winchendon. In 1785 his farm was included in Gardner and is now owned by the town, and known as the Gardner Poor Farm.

John C. Stone md. April 23, 1870, Harriet Ella Bemis, dau. of Reuben and Harriet (Perkins) Bemis of Winchendon. He owns the Central House and other real estate and was manager of the hotel from 1879 to 1886, when he leased the property to Ezra H. Lovell.

STOWE.

Only one family bearing this name has been resident of Ashburnham. In 1634 John Stowe from England, with his wife Elizabeth and six children, settled in Roxbury, Mass. He was made freeman the same year, and in 1638 was a member of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company, and a representative in 1639. Thomas Stowe, his son, b. in England, was a resident of Concord in 1640, and previous to 1660 he removed to Middletown, Conn. His son, Samuel, b. 1645, returned from Connecticut and settled in Marlboro' previous to 1677. In this settlement he was prominent, and much employed in public affairs, and also served in the Indian wars. He d. Feb. 9, 1721; his wife Elizabeth d. June 17, 1737. Thomas Stowe, their son, b. Dec. 27, 1682, md. Jan. 20, 1713, Hannah Johnson, b. July 20, 1691, dau. of William and Hannah Johnson of Marlboro'. He d. in Marlboro' Aug. 28, 1765; she d. June 15, 1789. They had sixteen children, and among them Benjamin Stowe, b. Aug. 25, 1718. He md. Dorcas Stone, b. April 11, 1725, dau. of Joseph and Mary Stone of Lexington. They settled in Harvard, where their five children were b. Of these, Manassah Stowe md. Mary Whitcomb of Littleton, Mass., and settled in Hillsboro', N. H., where he was killed in 1790 while felling trees, leaving one son and two daughters. Benjamin Stowe, son of Manassah Stowe, b. in Hillsboro', N. H., March 21, 1784, md. Feb. 18, 1813, Betsey Ager, sister of Ebenezer Ager, *q. v.*, and d. in Rindge Aug. 21, 1869; his wife d. Dec. 11, 1861. David Stowe, b. Feb. 24, 1815, md. Nov. 8, 1842, Mary Converse, dau. of Joshua Converse, Esq., of Rindge. They resided a short time in North Ashburnham and at the organization of the

Union church he served on several committees and a part of the original papers were drafted by him. He was an educated gentleman, of unblemished character. He d. July 7, 1877. His son Mortimer M. Stowe is a resident of this town and a daughter is the wife of Charles H. White, *q. v.*

1 MORTIMER M. STOWE, b. Jan. 22, 1844, enlisted Jan. 8, 1862; re-enlisted 1864; corporal in Light Battery C, Third Rhode Island Artillery; participating in siege of Charleston, 1863, and in the engagements near Petersburg and Richmond, 1864–5. He md. July 8, 1862, Sarah Jane Oliver. Since 1873 he has resided in this town. He is a deacon of the Congregational church and has been overseer of the poor several years.

2 I. *Clifton Ellsworth*, b. March 28, 1866; d. Dec. 5, 1885.

3 II. *Harold Clair*, b. Nov. 5, 1867.

1 JEREMIAH STOWELL, son of John and Susannah (Todd) Stowell, was b. in Temple June 5, 1791. He came to this town 1814, and was associated in business a few years with his brothers Joshua and Moses. He removed to New York.

2 JOSHUA STOWELL, a brother of Jeremiah, was b. in Temple May 12, 1789, and removed to this town in 1814. He md. July 2, 1815, Lydia Hastings, dau. of Capt. Charles Hastings, *q. v.*; she d. March 19, 1829; he md. (2d) April 22, 1834, Sally Davis, dau. of Amos Davis, *q. v.* He was engaged several years in wool carding and cloth dressing on the North Turnpike and subsequently was a farmer. He d. July 8, 1880.

3 I. *Harriet A.*, b. March 7, 1816; d. unmd.

4 II. *Moses A.*, b. July 31, 1817; d. in Cuba Sept. 19, 1847.

5 III. *Otis Whiting*, b. Nov. 13, 1819; md. June 10, 1848, Mrs. Mary Ann Garnett. He resides in New York city. Three children were b. in Ashburnham.

6 1. Ada L., b. July 22, 1849.

7 2. John M., b. Sept. 2, 1850; md. Helen Rector; resides in New York city.

8 3. Ella J., b. Jan. 30, 1852; md. Oren Rice, son of Joseph Rice, *q. v.*

9 IV. *John C.*, b. Oct. 1, 1823; was a printer and editor in Lowell. He was a soldier in the brigade commanded by Gen. Franklin Pierce of New

Hampshire in the Mexican War and was mortally wounded in the assault upon Churubusco in August, 1847.

10 MOSES STOWELL, twin brother of Joshua, was b. in Temple May 12, 1789. He was engaged with his brothers in wool carding and cloth dressing and subsequently removed to Leominster in 1836. He returned to this town after an absence of about four years. He md. Dec. 20, 1829, Mary Chesmore of Henniker, N. H. He d. Jan. 19, 1870; she d. March 26, 1872.

11 I. *Elvira*, b. March 7, 1826 (adopted); md. Townsend Barrett, *q. v.*

12 II. *Charles Newman*, b. June 29, 1830; resided in Burlington, N. J.; d. unmd. April 26, 1884.

13 III. *Jeremiah Thomas*, b. Sept. 5, 1831; md. Oct. 26, 1853, Sarah E. Wilson, dau. of John Wilson, *q. v.*; resided in this town until 1879, when he removed to Wilmot, Dakota Territory.

14 IV. *Susan Todd*, b. March 28, 1833; unmd.; a milliner in New York city.

15 V. *Emily Newton*, b. Jan. 29, 1835; md. Stephen C. Hastings, *q. v.*

16 VI. *Joshua Todd*, b. May 10, 1837; md. 1860, Eunice L. Whipple; he md. (2d) Dec. 29, 1874, Elvira L. Green, dau. of Lewis and Asenath (Butterfield) Green of Antrim, N. H. He resides near the school-house in the ninth district. He served one year in the 25th Regiment.

17 VII. *George S.*, b. March 23, 1839; d. Jan. 20, 1847.

18 VIII. *Ransom Gibson*, b. July 12, 1841; 53d Regiment; removed to Burlington, N. J.; md. 1865, Martha M. Fox; resides in Burlington, N. J.

19 IX. *Sarah Lucinda*, b. Oct. 8, 1843; md. Jan. 10, 1867, Lyman T. Lovewell, son of Isaac and Eliza (Moulton) Lovewell of Gardner; resides in Antrim, N. H.

1 JONATHAN TAYLOR, a son of David and Hannah Taylor, was b. in Bedford Feb. 27, 1729. He md. in Concord Aug. 29, 1754, Mary Jones, and resided in Bedford until he removed to this town in the spring of 1768. He settled on the farm now owned and occupied by his great-grandson, Daniel Wheeler. In 1773 he was an assessor and the following year a selectman. Subsequently he was often elected to positions in town affairs and during the Revolution his public service was conspicuous. He was

a member of the provincial congress which assembled at Concord in the autumn of 1774, and in 1774, '75 and '76 he was a member of the committee of correspondence. When the Lexington alarm was sounded in this town he bore a musket to the scene of hostilities. His name and that of his eldest son, Jonathan Taylor, Jr., are found on the roll of Capt. Davis' company. During the active years of his life no resident of this town exerted a more salutary influence, and in integrity, candor, patriotism and all the elements of manhood and good citizenship he had no superiors. He d. Oct. 21, 1813, aged 84 years. His wife d. Dec. 21, 1811. Six children b. in Bedford and two in Ashburnham.

2 I. *Jonathan*, b. May 29, 1755; md. 1784, Hannah Taylor.
3 II. *David*, b. April 23, 1757; md. Martha Bennett.
4 III. *Mary*, b. Oct. 3, 1759; d. unmd.
5 IV. *Lucy*, b. June 15, 1762; d. unmd. Dec. 16, 1813.
6 V. *Sarah*, b. Feb. 19, 1764; md. March 10, 1795, William Wheeler, son of John Wheeler; they resided in New Ipswich.
7 VI. *Lydia*, b. July 24, 1766: d. unmd.
8 VII. *Elizabeth*, b. Dec. 27, 1768; md. Samuel Wheeler, son of John Wheeler, *q. v.*
9 VIII. *Nathan*, b. March 14, 1771.+

(9) NATHAN TAYLOR, b. March 14, 1771, md. Sept. 15, 1803, Rhoda Marble, dau. of Oliver Marble, *q. v.* He was a thrifty farmer and occupied the farm now of his sons, near the homestead of his father. He was a good citizen and a man of irreproachable character. He d. Oct. 25, 1851, aged 80 years.

10 I. *Nathan M.*, b. May 11, 1804; unmd.; a farmer on the homestead.
11 II. *Rhoda*, b. July 17, 1805; md. Daniel Wheeler, son of Samuel Wheeler, *q. v.*
12 III. *Oliver*, b. Jan. 13, 1807; unmd.; a farmer on the homestead.
13 IV. *William*, b. Jan. 17, 1809; d. unmd. Feb. 9, 1836.
14 V. *Deborah B.*, b. Nov. 29, 1812; unmd.; resides on the homestead with her brothers.

15 PHINEHAS TAYLOR, lineage not traced, with wife Sarah, removed to Ashburnham about 1778. He resided in the south part of the town. He d. in June, 1833. His

widow d. July 29, 1842, aged 83 years. Another record states her death July 29, 1843. The former is probably correct.

16 I. *Sarah*, b. April 11, 1779; md. Sept. 3, 1805, Simon Gates, son of Simon and Susan (Reed) Gates of Gardner. Six children b. in Gardner.

17 II. *Molly*, b. Oct. 16, 1780; d. June 3, 1781.

18 III. *Phinehas*, b. June 2, 1782; d. May 6, 1794.

19 IV. *Polly*, b. Oct. 16, 1785; d. Nov. 10, 1789.

20 V. *Lois*, b. Jan. 17, 1788; d. Feb. 20, 1799.

21 VI. *Lucy*, b. Oct. 29, 1790; resided many years in this town; d. in Gardner unmd.

22 VII. *Ephraim*, b. July 25, 1793; md. Nov. 2, 1815, Anna Rice, dau. of Reuben Rice, *q. v.*, and resided in this town several years. Two of their five children d. young.

23 1. Martha Ann, b. Dec. 24, 1819; md. Charles Clark, son of Levi Clark, *q. v.*

24 2. Sarah R, b. April 24, 1822; md. John N. Hastings, *q. v.*

25 3. Eunice, b. May 15, 1824; md. Simeon Merritt, *q. v.*

26 VIII. *Nathaniel*, b. Dec. 10, 1795; was a merchant in New Orleans, where he d. unmd.

27 IX. *Clarissa*, b. May 5, 1798; d. June 26, 1803.

28 X. *Milly*, b. June 20, 1801; lived with her sister Lucy; d. unmd. Feb., 1841.

29 Capt. Samuel A. Taylor, son of Aaron and Louisa (Crane) Taylor, was b. in Westminster March 23, 1827. His father d. when he was a child and at six years of age he found a home in the family of Nathaniel F. Cutter who was a relative. He was a man of good ability and of unblemished character. In 1860 he was commissioned a lieutenant in the Ashburnham Light Infantry, and the following year he entered the service with his company in the 21st Regiment. Jan. 24, 1862, he was promoted to first lieutenant, and May 28 of the same year he was promoted to captain. He resigned Jan. 13, 1863, and was subsequently an officer in the Fourth Heavy Artillery. He md. Nov. 11, 1852, Julia A. Davis, b. in Templeton March 13, 1831, dau. of Abel and Lucy (Partridge) Davis. He d. July 6, 1869. His widow resides at Pratt, Kansas.

30 I. *Charles Austin*, b. March 31, 1856.

31 II. *Willie Davis*, b. Aug. 23, 1858; d. June 23, 1863.
32 III. *Etta Jane*, b. Nov. 2, 1863.

1 HARTWELL TENNEY was b. in Marlboro', N. H., April 4, 1825. He is a son of Archie and Susanna (Jones) Tenney, a grandson of William and Mehitable (Jones) Tenney of Marlboro', N. H., and a great-grandson of William and Sarah (Proctor) Tenney of Littleton. He removed to this town 1862, where he has since resided. He md. July 18, 1850, Josephine P. Stearns, dau. of Charles Stearns, Esq., *q. v.* Two children b. in Marlboro', N. H., and one in Ashburnham.

2 I. *Nellie Josephine*, b. Sept. 6, 1857; d. July 31, 1859.
3 II. *Charles Stearns*, b. Sept 27, 1860.
4 III. *Mabel Winthrop*, b. July 6, 1863.

TOTTINGHAM.

The families of Tottingham have not been numerous but the name has been continuous on the records for a century. They are descendants of Henry Tottingham who was b. in England and in 1640 was residing in Charlestown. He removed to Woburn and was taxed there in 1645 and continued a residence in that town. The birth of two children of this Henry and his wife Anna Tottingham are recorded in Woburn; of these Eliah Tottingham, b. Feb. 28, 1652, md. Mary ——, and lived in Woburn where he d. Nov. 27, 1717. Elisha Tottingham, fifth of the eight children of Eliah, was b. July 22, 1696; also lived in Woburn where he d. March 29, 1743. By wife Rebecca he had six children. The eldest son was Elisha, b. Oct. 18, 1713. He md. May 27, 1736, Sarah Lawrence and lived in Woburn. They are the ancestors of the Ashburnham families.

1 MOSES TOTTINGHAM, b. in Woburn July 22, 1746, was a son of Elisha and Sarah (Lawrence) Tottingham and of the fifth generation of his family in this country. He came to Ashburnham about 1772, and from an early date and perhaps from the time of his arrival he was a blacksmith near the old common. He had many apprentices to whom he taught the mysteries of the trade. The old shop and the burly form of its occupant still live in the traditions of the town. He md. Sept. 8, 1774, Elizabeth Conant, dau. of Ebenezer Conant; she d. Jan. 5, 1777; md. (2d) Oct. 17, 1785, Mary Samson, dau. of Jonathan Samson. He d. Feb. 7, 1831; she d. Dec. 23, 1817.

2 I. *Mary*, b. Oct. 23, 1786.
3 II. *Elizabeth*, b. Feb. 8, 1788; d. Jan. 25, 1795.
4 III. *Sarah*, b. Dec. 13, 1789.

5 iv. *Moses*, b. April 18, 1791.+
6 v. *Asa*, b. Feb. 24, 1793; d. unmd. Nov. 26, 1880.
7 vi. *Ephraim*, b. May 7, 1794; d. Aug. 9, 1795.
8 vii. *David*, b. Sept. 18, 1796; lived alone many years in northwest part of the town; d. unmd. May 23, 1875.
9 viii. *Infant*, b. ——; d. March 6, 1800.
10 ix. *Abraham S.*, b. April 30, 1802.+

(5) Moses Tottingham, Jr., md. ——, Olive Bigelow, and lived in the northwest part of the town. His wife d. April 19, 1863; he d. Jan. 2, 1867.

11 i. *Levi Bigelow*, b. April 11, 1820; md. ——, 1845, Arvilla A. Small, dau. of Joseph Small, *q. v.* He was a farmer on the Fletcher farm now occupied by Aaron B. Bixby. He d. ——; she md. (2d) Alpheus Bosworth of Winchendon.

12 1. Roswell T., b. ——, 1847; d. April 5, 1848.
13 2. Omar D., b. March 25, 1849; md. Ellen Moodis; resides in Oakham.
14 3. Emma Ida, b. March 27, 1853; md. Charles Bosworth, son of Alpheus Bosworth of Winchendon.
15 4. Elmer L., b. Sept. 14, 1857.

16 ii. *Lucy*, b. Aug 24, 1823; d. Sept. 16, 1841.
17 iii. *Olive*, b. Sept. 13, 1826; md. Aug. 26, 1847, Jesse P. Wellman. She d. March 1, 1848.
18 iv. *Polly* (twin), b. Sept. 13, 1826; md. Joseph Small, *q. v.*
19 v. *Harriet*, b. Jan. 9, 1828; md. Isaiah Crosby; md. (2d) Henry Weeks. She d. in Worcester about 1870.

(10) Abraham S. Tottingham md. ——, 1822, Sarah M. Taft, dau. of Marvin Taft of Whitingham. He resided in Winchendon a few years but returned to Ashburnham about 1826, and in —— he removed to Westminster, where he d. Dec. 21, 1880; his wife d. June 27, 1860.

20 i. *Henry Edwin*, b. Aug. 15, 1823; md. 1827, Lucy Bartlett; lived in Keene, N. H., where he d. March, 1865.
21 ii. *Marvin Taft*, b. March 31, 1825; md. Jan. 30, 1851, Ellen Hill, b. in Fitzwilliam, N. H., March 9, 1831, dau. of Samuel and Nancy

(Locke) Hill. He is an ornamental painter in Keene, N. H. For several years past an invalid.

22 III. *Charles Newton*, b. Sept 11, 1828; md. July 15, 1851, Rhoda M. Titus. He is a manufacturer of carriages and sleighs in Keene, N. H.

23 NATHANIEL TOTTINGHAM, who removed to this town 1838, was a grandson of Nathaniel Tottingham who was a brother of Moses of Ashburnham, and a son of Elisha and Sarah (Lawrence) Tottingham. He was b. in Woburn June 10, 1740; md. Aug. 16, 1770, Esther Brown, b. in Lexington Aug. 12, 1743, dau. of Daniel and Anne (Bright) Brown. He removed to Westminster. His son Elisha Tottingham, b. in Westminster March 11, 1773, md. June 20, 1817, Clarissa P. Brown. Their son Nathaniel Tottingham, b. in Westminster March 10, 1818, md. Oct. 6, 1842, Harriet R. Page, b. in Marlow, N. H., March 23, 1824, dau. of Charles and Elizabeth (Warren) Page. He lived after 1838 in this town where he d. May 26, 1874. His widow resides on the homestead in Central Village.

24 I. *Henry J.*, b. May 20, 1847. For several years and until 1885, he was a dry goods merchant in Winchendon. He md. June 3, 1869, Ella M. Brown of Clinton.

1 JOSHUA TOWNSEND, b. about 1725, and wife Mary removed to Shrewsbury about 1760. They probably lived previously in Westboro'. Their youngest children were b. in Shrewsbury. The homestead by a change in town lines is now in Boylston. In 1780 the family removed to this town and the parents had a home with their son Reuben. He d. Sept. 26, 1804; she d. Dec. 18, 1812.

2 I. *Hannah*, b. ——; md. Dec. 8, 1773, Richard Murphy of Rutland.
3 II. *Priscilla*, b. ——; md. Caleb Kendall, *q. v.*
4 III. *Abraham*, b. ——.†
5 IV. *Zilpah*, b. 1757; md. Jonas Rice, *q. v.*
6 V. *Reuben*, b. Aug. 23, 1758.†
7 VI. *Mary*, b. April 14, 1762.
8 VII. *Zipporah*, b. June 24, 1764; md. Oct. 23, 1787, Ozias Partridge.
9 VIII. *Lucy*, b. Feb. 19, 1769; md. Hezekiah Corey, *q. v.*
10 IX. *Achsah*, b. July 27, 1772; md. Amos Corey, *q. v.*
11 X. *Ruth*, b. Oct. 28, 1774; md. Dea. Samuel Ward, *q. v.*

(4) ABRAHAM TOWNSEND resided in this town from 1780 to 1802. Previous to his removal to this town he served in the Revolutionary army on the Hudson river in 1778. He removed to Berlin, Vt., and was successful in business and respected as a citizen. He md. Jan. 21, 1781, Molly Gardner of Shelburne.

12 I. *Molly*, b. April 24, 1783.
13 II. *Priscilla*, b. April 5, 1785.
14 III. *Naamah*, b. May 17, 1787.
15 IV. *Betty*, b. July 18, 1790.
16 V. *Abraham*, b. Oct. 25, 1792.
17 VI. *Benjamin*, b. July 23, 1799.

(6) REUBEN TOWNSEND served two or more enlistments in the Revolution. *Vide* page 200. He md. in this town Nov. 5, 1782, Margaret Metcalf, dau. of Joseph Metcalf. He was an intelligent, thoughtful man, a good citizen and his influence at home and abroad was salutary. He d. 1837; his widow d. March 20, 1847.

18 I. *Dolly*, b. Jan. 12, 1784; md. John Ward, Jr., *q. v.*
19 II. *Eunice*, b. Jan. 16, 1786; md. Joshua Smith, Jr., *q. v.*
20 III. *Reuben*, b. Jan. 15, 1788.+
21 IV. *Joshua*, b. Oct. 22, 1790; he was engaged in the manufacture of pails on Water street. In 1833 he removed to Rindge and was there a cabinet maker. He md. July 17, 1823, Betsey Kimball, b. Sept. 25, 1796, dau. of William and Abigail (Hamlet) Kimball of Rindge. She d. Nov. 15, 1849; he md. (2d) 1852, Esther Eaton of Lancaster. He d. June 20, 1855; his widow d. June 27, 1855.

22 1. Leonard Kimball, b. July 11, 1825; d. July 3, 1836.
23 2. Albert, b. Nov. 22; d. Nov. 23, 1827.
24 3. Mary, b. April 27, 1830; md. Jan. 6, 1857, Ivers Wellington, b. in Ashby Jan. 12, 1812, son of Liberty and Mary (Lawrence) Wellington. They reside in Rindge.
25 4. William Kimball, b. June 10, 1839; d. April 21, 1843.

26 V. *Joseph*, b. June 23, 1793; md. Mary Smith. He was a carpenter in Fitchburg.
27 VI. *Lucy*, b, July 18, 1800; d. July 20, 1803.

(20) REUBEN TOWNSEND, ESQ., during the active years of his life occupied a prominent position in social and public affairs. He was frequently called to positions of trust. He was a selectman many years and twice represented the town in the Legislature. In fair characters the outlines of his life are engraven in the records of the town. Among his fellow-men he was responsive to every call of duty, exact and honest, and in all his relations to the public he was a model citizen. In his youth he was a member of the Ashburnham Light Infantry and was in the service in the War of 1812. Contrasted with his pacific nature and the quiet and peaceful habits of his life, his patriotism in this service is rendered more conspicuous. He d. of paralysis in 1867, aged 79. His father and his grandfather d. at about the same age and of the same disease. He md. July 18, 1815, Sultina Hill, dau. of Isaac Hill, *q. v.*; she d. June 18, 1860; he md. (2d) Matilda (Bolton) Shumway, dau. of Capt. Bolton of Westminster.

28 I. *Sultina Cobleigh*, b. Nov. 10, 1816; d. July 28, 1824.

29 II. *Lucy*, b. July 20, 1818; md. Aug. 24, 1842, Samuel Sawin Coolidge, b. in Gardner Aug. 24, 1813, son of James and Annis (Sawin) Coolidge. Mr. Coolidge was in the employ of E. Murdock, Jr., of Winchendon about ten years, and after a residence of four years in this town, he removed in 184– to Bellows Falls, Vt., where he has been engaged in the manufacture of pails and lumber.

30 1. Arthur, b. Jan. 5, 1844; md. Eliza Jane Shumway.

31 2. Clement, b. May 12, 1849; d. at Bellows Falls, Vt., July 9, 1861.

32 3. Samuel Joseph, b. April 2, 1855; md. Flora S. Prentice.

33 EDWIN ALONZO TOWNSEND was b. in Mason, N. H., March 24, 1810. He is a son of Samuel, Jr., and Betsey (Nutting) Townsend of Mason and a grandson of Samuel and Hannah (Lawrence) Townsend who removed from Northboro' to Mason, N. H., about 1785. It may prove that Samuel Townsend, who md. Hannah Lawrence, was a son of Joshua Townsend who is No. 1 of this register. Edwin Alonzo Townsend came to this town in childhood and lived with Samuel Dunster whose wife was his aunt.

After a residence of some years in Boston he returned to this town. He md. June 22, 1835, Mercy C. Moore, dau. of Treat and Mercy Moore of Eastham.

34 I. *Augusta Maria*, b. Jan. 7, 1839; md. E. G. W. Ladd.

35 II. *Betsey Wilder*, b. Aug. 22, 1845; md. Luther Seaver of Gardner.

1 JOHN TRIMNAL was a native of England. He md. Margaret Samson, dau. of Jonathan Samson, *q. v.*, and resided a farmer in this town. He d. Oct. 9, 1840; she d. Oct. 19, 1860.

2 I. *Mary Ann*, b. Oct. 6, 1823; md. Nov. 14, 1843, George Flint, son of David Flint, and resides in Ashby.

3 II. *Joseph Rice*, b. Dec. 4, 1824; d. March 4, 1859.

4 III. *Ovisa Woods*, b. April 22, 1828; d. Aug. 23, 1850.

5 IV. *John Otis*, b. May 2, 1832; d. Jan. 24, 1852.

1 HENRY TUCKERMAN, son of Capt. George W. and grandson of John Tuckerman, was b. in Portsmouth, N. H., Nov. 11, 1814. He removed to this town 1831; md. April 14, 1840, Charlotte Farrar, dau. of John Farrar, *q. v.* He is a farmer in the ninth school district.

2 I. *Anna Maria*, b. Nov. 13, 1841; md. Oct. 15, 1868, John E. Wood, b. May 1, 1823, son of David and Mary (Earl) Wood of Rindge.

3 II. *Arabel Sophia*, b. Aug. 3, 1843; d. Nov. 25, 1865.

4 III. *Albert Henry*, b. Sept. 3, 1845; served in the Civil War in Fifth Regiment; d. Sept. 4, 1865.

5 IV. *Eveline Eliza*, b. July 26, 1847; md. June 24, 1874, William Henry Lucas of Worcester; she d. April 13, 1877.

6 V. *Clarence Earle*, b. Jan. 15, 1849; d. Dec. 29, 1867.

7 VI. *Florence Malora*, b. Dec. 28, 1850; md. Charles M. Stimson, son of Mirick Stimson, *q. v.*

1 ARTEMAS G. UPHAM, b. in Canton May 25, 1818, son of Charles and Polly (Tilden) Upham, md. in Scituate March 19, 1838, AbigailH. Dexter, b. in Scituate June 29, 1818, dau. of Thomas and Abigail (Cushing) Dexter.

He resided in Lowell and in Pelham, N. H., removing to this town in 1871. He is a farmer at the South Village. His wife d. Nov. 28, 1884.

2 I. *Charles T.*, b. June 16, 1839; d. Aug. 17, 1854.
3 II. *Andrew C.*, b. Dec. 12, 1842; md. Dec. 24, 1869, Mary Estey, b. in Canton June 27, 1847. He resides in Gardner.
4 III. *Sumner H.*, b. Sept. 13, 1845; md. July 31, 1866, Sophia E. Cutter, dau. of James Cutter, *q. v.* He is a mechanic and resides at South Village.
5 IV. *Harlin P.*, b. Dec. 6, 1860; md. May 1, 1884, Sadie Muzzy, b. at Chester, Vt., June 10, 1860. He resides in Gardner.

1 PHILIP VORBACK, sometimes written Vorpeck, is the most conspicuous personage in the annals of Ashburnham. He did not serve in the Revolution and narrate to succeeding juveniles how fields were won. He was not foremost in public affairs, he was never a highway surveyor or an orator in the annual town meeting. He was neither a deacon, a tithingman, nor even a justice of the peace. In negative qualities he was a peer among the average citizen. But Philip Vorback rode a bear and at once became a hero. Vorback and the bear are dead, but the story of the ride lives on in perpetual youth.

Philip Vorback, considered in the abstract, was a German who came to this country for the sole purpose of earning an honest livelihood. His ambition was moderate and his thirst for fame was quenched in the routine of daily toil. In some way the ride was accidental. There was no coincidence of thought between Vorback and the bear nor is it fair to presume there was collusion. How it chanced that our hero, a man of placid temperament and moderate movements, ever came up with a vigorous bear is the only mystery that surrounds the exploit.

Philip Vorback came to Ashburnham in 1758 and settled near the site of Cushing Academy. He and John Overlock were the only Germans who did not live in the community on Lexington grant. He was one of the original members of the church. His name is occasionally found in the records until 1780. He was not taxed in 1787, the only tax list preserved from 1771 to near the close of the century. There is no tradition or evidence that he removed from the town, and in the fulfilment of his immortal fame there is no record of his death. The name of his wife was Lois and the names of nine children appear in the town and church records.

2 i. *Susannah*, b. Nov. 27, 1755.
3 ii. *Lois*, b. Sept. 19, 1757.
4 iii. *Philip*, b. March, 1760.
5 iv. *John*, b. July 14, 1763.
6 v. *Catherine*, b. July 15, 1766.
7 vi. *Mary*, b. March 4, 1769.
8 vii. *Jacob*, b. July 11, 1771.
9 viii. *Henry*, bap. Nov. 14, 1773.
10 ix. *William*, bap. Feb. 16, 1780.

1 Prof. James E. Vose, son of Edward L. and Aurelia (Wilson) Vose and grandson of Dea. Samuel and Mary (Saltmarsh) Vose of Antrim, N. H., was b. July 18, 1836. The ancestry is traced in History of Antrim, and successive generations in Antrim and in Bedford have been distinguished for sterling traits of character, and have been prominent in ecclesiastical and political affairs. Prof. Vose removed to this town 1875. *Vide* page 358. He md. Mary Neville of New Boston, who d. Jan. 6, 1875. He md. (2d) Aug. 11, 1878, Lois E. (Stickney) Rockwood, widow of J. Augustus Rockwood, *q. v.*

WALKER.

Capt. Zaccheus Walker was a native of Andover. He was an officer in the Revolution and for some time was a member of Washington's Life Guard. During the Revolution his home was in Merrimack. About 1793 he removed to Ashby and about 1801 to New Ipswich, where he d. 1832. His wife Martha d. in Ashby Feb. 22, 1801, and in July, 1801, he md. (2d) Rachel Bigelow, widow of Silas Bigelow of New Ipswich. Danforth Walker, the seventh of his eleven children, was b. in Merrimack July 26, 1785. He md. Betsey Bigelow, dau. of Silas Bigelow, b. Nov. 12, 1788. He resided in New Ipswich, where he d. June 4, 1863; his widow d. Nov. 29, 1868.

1 Capt. Addison A. Walker, son of Danforth and Betsey (Bigelow) Walker, was b. in New Ipswich Sept. 22, 1817. He md. 1840, Susan S. Keyes, b. in Rindge Nov. 18, 1818, dau. of Amos and Eunice (Spofford) Keyes. She d. in Gardner Aug. 21, 1843. Capt. Walker removed to Ashburnham in 1847 and has continued a residence in this town. For many years he was engaged in the firm of Rockwood and Walker in the manufacture of tubs and pails. He has been a selectman several years and has been at all times a loyal citizen. He was a captain in the Civil War, and for several years an officer of the Ashburnham Light Infantry. *Vide* Chapters XVIII and XIX. He md. (2d) Oct. 21, 1847, Rebecca H. Stearns, dau. of Charles Stearns, Esq., *q. v.*

2 i. *Susan J.*, b. April 20, 1842; md. Jan. 3, 1872, James E. Thompson, son of James H. Thompson. He is a stationer in Fitchburg.

1 Dr. Merrick Wallace was b. in Oxford April 12, 1808. He was a son of Nahum and Susan (Joslin) Wallace and a grandson of James Wallace of Douglas. Nahum Wallace lived in Douglas, Oxford and in Killingly, Conn. *Vide* page 471. Dr. Wallace md. Fanny Baker, b. Feb. 2, 1813, dau. of Ezra and Lucy (Priest) Baker of Gardner. She d. Jan. 31, 1887.

2 i. *Merrick W.*, b. Dec. 18, 1831; md. May 20, 1862, Helen E. Manning, dau. of Ivers B. Manning, *q. v.*; resides in Gardner.

3 ii. *Lucy F.*, b. Dec. 20, 1833; md. May 15, 1852, George A. Kendall of Ashby. They reside in Petersham.

4 iii. *Webster W.*, b. May 27, 1836; md. Dec. 10, 1860, Sarah A. Stokes of Lawrence. He d. of wounds received in the Civil War, July 26, 1864.

5 iv. *Henry C.*, b. May 2, 1838; md. Nov. 18, 1880, Flora A. Capron of Marlboro', N. H.; resides in Keene, N. H.

6 v. *Jennie B.*, b. June 15, 1841; md. Dec. 31, 1863, Abner J. Barnaby of Providence, R. I.

7 vi. *Ellen R.*, b. May 26, 1843; md. May 28, 1862, William F. Dinwiddie, b. in Harrisburg, Pa., Oct. 26, 1838, son of John and Margaret Dinwiddie and a grandson of Hugh Dinwiddie of Gettysburg, Pa. He is an ornamental painter.

8 Brigham Wallace, a brother of Dr. Merrick Wallace, was b. in Killingly, Conn., March 9, 1812. He is a farmer and has resided in this town since 1834. He md. Lorette Bemis, b. in Westminster Sept. 30, 1805, dau. of William and Hannah (Derby) Bemis, *q. v.*

9 i. *Frank W.*, b. Nov. 27, 1832.+

10 ii. *William*, b. Sept. 15, 1838; unmd.; resides in Ashburnham.

(9) Frank W. Wallace md. May 6, 1860, Susan W. Maynard, dau. of Antipas Maynard, *q. v.* They reside in Ashburnham Centre.

11 i. *Mellora M.*, b. April 17, 1861; md. Sept. 12, 1883, Charles Byron Ross of Hanover, N. H.; reside in Holyoke.

12 ii. *Frank Edward*, b. Aug. 3, 1862; md. Sept. 8, 1886, Elizabeth Dolson of New Paltz, N. Y.; reside in New York city.

13 iii. *Lottie E.*, b. Aug. 26, 1871.

WALLIS.

The early emigrants to America bearing the name of Wallis and Wallace, which were often interchangeable names, were of English and Scotch origin. The Ashburnham family of Wallis is a branch of the Townsend family and while I am unable to trace the lineage to a known emigrant ancestor, the record beginning with 1731 is well established. At this date John Wallis, then a man of middle age, was a resident of Townsend. The first mention of his name appears in a deed of land conveyed to him by John Kemp, Nov. 12, 1731. In March, 1733, he purchased of Thomas Phillips and others a part of the Hathorn farm. See History of Townsend, pages 34 and 62. This title proved worthless, and in consideration of his loss the proprietors of Townsend granted him one hundred and ninety acres, near Mount Grace and not far from the Hathorn purchase. He was a selectman 1747 and was one of the sixteen original members of the church in Townsend. He d. May 20, 1763, aged 87. His will is dated Aug. 1, 1762, and it was entered for probate June 13, 1763. In a deed of land to his son Isaac, dated 1761, he includes the conveyance of "his pew in the Townsend Meeting House in the south side of the house at the left hand of the south door going in," providing that possession should not be given until after his decease. No record of his marriage has been found. His wife Elizabeth, who survived him and d. Jan. 25, 1765, aged 72 years, was the mother of his younger children. It is possible that she was a second wife. In his will he names his wife Elizabeth and six children, and sons of a deceased daughter. The records of Townsend furnish the names of two sons who died young.

i. John, named in a following paragraph.

ii. Susannah, was b. 1725 or five years before her parents removed to Townsend; md. June 23, 1742, Jonas Woolson, b. in Cambridge Oct. 1, 1711, son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Chadwick) Woolson. They resided in New Ipswich, where he settled previous to his marriage. He d. 1794; she d. 1796, leaving children: (1) Elizabeth, (2) Susannah, (3) Martha and (4) Jonas.

iii. A daughter, who md. —— Conick, and her sons James, David, Jonathan and John, are named in the will of John Wallis, Sen.

iv. Jonathan, b. about 1730, md. Oct. 7, 1755, Mary Barstow of Hollis. He was proprietors' clerk twenty years, a selectman eleven years and a representative two years. Three of his fourteen children d. in infancy. (1) Elizabeth, md. 1775, Aaron Scott; (2) Sarah, md. Samuel Stone, Jr.; (3) Mary, b. April 14, 1759; md. 1786, Samuel Stevens; d. July 21, 1787; (4) Hannah; (5) Jonathan, md. Abigail Wyman; he d. March 26, 1807; (6) Sybel, md. Benjamin Spaulding; (7) Joseph, md. Hannah Conant; (8) Benjamin, md. Rebecca Whitney; (9) Reuben; (10) Rebecca, md. 1793, John Conant; (11) Asa, b. 1778; md. 1802, Milly Conant. Mary (Barstow) Wallis d. Sept. 6, 1797. He md. (2d) June 7, 1801, Milicent (Farrar) Conant, widow of Daniel Conant. She d. May 3, 1843, aged 87 years.

v. Matthew, perhaps older than Jonathan, md. Jane ——, and in 1762

was living in Milford, N. H. Three children, Jane, John and Sybel, were bap. in Townsend 1761-5.

VI. Isaac, md. 1760, Jane Russell and lived in Townsend. He d. Nov. 12, 1817; his wife d. Dec. 4, 1783. Among their children was Isaac Wallis, Jr., who md. 1783, Rebecca Farrar of New Ipswich.

VII and VIII. William and David, who d. young.

IX. William, youngest child, was bap. 1737.

JOHN WALLIS, JR., removed to Townsend at an early date, and is frequently named in the records. His wife Sarah, who was the mother of his children, d. March 25, 1752. He md. (2d) Feb. 15, 1753, Mary White of Groton; md. (3d) 1759, Martha Pudney of New Ipswich. He d. Sept. 30, 1777, aged 83 years. His wife, Martha, survived him, and in Probate and Registry records is found mention of the following children:

I. William, who md. Aug. 2, 1747, Eunice Nutting and had sons, Daniel and John.

II. Zebediah, who md. Tabitha —— and had children, Moses, Sarah, Relief, Abel, and two d. in childhood.

III. Relief, who was a tailoress in Fitchburg, and the owner of considerable real estate. She d. unmd. 1781.

IV. Benoni, who resided in Lunenburg. He md. July 2, 1755, Rebecca Brown of Lynn. He is the immediate ancestor of the Ashburnham and the Ashby families of Wallis. He d. March 15, 1792. His wife d. Aug. 25, 1790.

There were seven children of Benoni and Rebecca (Brown) Wallis, all b. in Lunenburg. I. Benjamin, b. April 15, 1756. *Vide* Wilker register. II. Curwin, b. April 21, 1758. III. David, b. Oct. 16, 1760; md. Susannah Conn and is No. 1 in the following register. IV. Rebecca, b. April 11, 1763; md. 1793, Isaac Walker of Ashby; d. Jan. 27, 1795. V. Ebenezer, b. April 11, 1765. *Vide* page 180. VI. Molly, b. ——; md. July, 1784, Asa Kendall, Jr., of Ashby. Twelve children. She d. Sept. 30, 1836. VII. Frederick, b. Oct. 15, 1768; d. young.

NOTE. — It is certain that John Wallis, Sen., who d. May 20, 1763, had a son John who was living in 1762, and there is inferential evidence that John Wallis, Jr., who d. Sept. 30, 1777, was that son. However, there is a tradition in Townsend that John Wallis, Jr., was a nephew of John Wallis, Sen., and if no error appears in the inscriptions on the grave-stones, which are not infallible, their relative age firmly sustains the tradition. Whatever may have been the degree of kinship, record and tradition are unanimous in the assertion that they were men of strong character, and through their occupation of coopers, or barrel makers, as formerly known, they were the pioneers of a thriving industry of Townsend.

1 DAVID WALLACE, son of Benoni and Rebecca (Brown) Wallis, was b. in Lunenburg Oct. 16, 1760. While a resident of his native town he served three enlistments in the Revolution. *Vide* page 206. He removed to this town 1786, and was a farmer until late in life. He md. April 11, 1797, Susannah Conn, dau. of John Conn, *q. v.* He d. Jan. 12, 1842; his widow d. March 24, 1847. Six children.

2 I. *David*, b. July 14, 1797.+

3 II. *James Parks*, b. July 27, 1799; md. Lucy Locke,

b. Aug. 3, 1797, dau. of Benjamin and Betsey (Wyman) Locke of Lexington. He resided in Cambridge many years and subsequently in Ashby, where he d. May 26, 1870. Three or more children.

4 III. *Ruth Davis*, b. Oct. 15, 1806; md. John D. Morton, *q. v.*; md. (2d) Philip R. Merriam, *q. v.*

5 IV. *John Wyman*, b. Jan. 27, 1809.+

6 V. *Lucy Spaulding*, b. March 6, 1814; md. Oct. 30, 1838, Walter Fairbanks, b. in Gardner Jan. 2, 1811, son of Levi Fairbanks, Jr. They resided in Gardner; he d. April 24, 1881; she d. June 7, 1883.

7 1. George W., b. July 20, 1841; d. Sept. 6, 1841.

8 2. Mary A., b. Aug. 10, 1849; md. Llewellyn L. Atherton. He d. Dec. 30, 1879.

9 VI. *Frederick*, b. June 19, 1816; md. May 15, 1839, Fannie Tenney, b. in Marlboro', N. H., Jan. 28, 1819, dau. of Archie and Susannah (Jones) Tenney. He resided in Ashburnham until 1848, when he removed to Marlboro', N. H., where he d. Feb. 26, 1882.

10 1. Abbie Frances, b. Jan. 17, 1840; md. Aug. 20, 1857, Hosea B. Knight, b. Oct. 22, 1835, son of Josiah H. and Martha (Mason) Knight of Dublin and Marlboro', N. H. They reside in Winchendon.

11 2. Wilber F., b. Nov. 29, 1850; md. Jan. 24, 1874, Ella D. Richardson, b. July 6, 1852, dau. of Darius and Ruth T. (Woodward) Richardson of Marlboro'. He was a farmer on the homestead, and has recently removed to Keene, N. H.

(2) David Wallace, son of David, was the first in this lineage who wrote the name Wallace. A few years previous to 1822 he was a clothier in Fitchburg and, with Charles F. Crosby, owned lands and a mill near the Stone mill, now of Joseph Cushing. Subsequently he was a farmer in New Ipswich and in Rindge, where he d. May 29, 1857. He was an exemplary man and a worthy citizen. He md. Roxanna Gowen of New Ipswich, who, surviving him, d. in Fitchburg Feb. 27, 1876.

12 i. *Harriet*, b. Sept. 18, 1821; md. Feb. 12, 1843, Barnard Tenney of New Ipswich. She d. Sept. 7, 1881.

13 ii. *Rodney*, b. Dec. 21, 1823.+

14 iii. *David K.*, b. Jan. 24, 1826; md. Huldah Hartwell, dau. of Charles Hartwell of Ashby; she d. June 23, 1874.

15 iv. *John A.*, b. Jan. 23, 1829; resides in New York; md. 1859, Susan Jane Drake.

16 v. *Charles E.*, b. March 6, 1831; md. June 6, 1857, Elizabeth Gilson of Groton. He resides in New Ipswich.

17 vi. *George F.*, b. Nov. 21, 1833; md. Nov. 21, 1859, Maria A. Woodbury, dau. of Nathan Woodbury of Rindge. He d. in Winchendon July 10, 1874.

18 vii. *Romanzo A.*, b. Sept. 29, 1836; md. June 25, 1865, Jane S. Morgan. He d. at Savannah, Ga., Nov. 6, 1875.

19 viii. *William B.*, b. March 25, 1839; md. Aug. 28, 1859, Helen A. Hayward of Fitchburg. He resides in Fitchburg, and is an accountant for the Fitchburg Paper Company.

20 1. Minnie M., b. Aug. 29, 1861.

(5) John W. Wallace, son of David, md. Nov. 17, 1831, Lucy Blodget, dau. of Elias Blodget, *q. v.* They resided at South Village, where he d. April 19, 1862. His widow resides in this town.

21 i. *Hosea C.*, b. May 2, 1837; md. ——, 1860, Jennie S. Ackley. He d. by accident Aug. 4, 1883.

22 ii. *Lincoln*, b. Jan. 16, 1842; md. Sept. 26, 1868, Sarah Frances Blodget, dau. of James Blodget, *q. v.* They reside at South Village.

(13) Hon. Rodney Wallace, son of David and Roxanna (Gowen) Wallace and grandson of David and Susannah (Conn) Wallace, was b. in New Ipswich Dec. 21, 1823. In his youth his parents removed to Rindge, where at the age of twenty years he was employed by Dr. Stephen Jewett, with whom he remained nine years. For a considerable portion of this time he was engaged in the sale and distribution of the Jewett proprietary medicines which were famous at that time.

In 1852 he removed to Fitchburg, and actively engaged

in the wholesale trade in books, stationery and paper stock, which was conducted under the firm of Shepley & Wallace and R. Wallace & Co. After several years of successful management of this business, in 1865 with other gentlemen he enlisted in the manufacture of paper under the firm name of the Fitchburg Paper Co. Early in the fifth year of this enterprise he became sole proprietor of the business. He has made large additions of lands and tenements, and has enlarged and improved the mill and its appointments. A new mill was built in 1878 and at this date the daily product of the business is twenty thousand pounds of hanging, glazing and card paper. In whatever enterprise he has engaged he has been fortunate, not only in a pecuniary point of view, but in the prompt command of the confidence and respect of his associates. In him integrity and principle have been closely allied with business tact and a liberal and comprehensive management of large pecuniary interests.

In the direction of the affairs of several monetary and corporate interests, his services have been frequently sought. He has been president and director of the Fitchburg Gas Light Co. since 1864; a director of the Fitchburg National Bank since 1866; for many years a trustee of the Fitchburg Savings Bank; a director of the Fitchburg Mutual Fire Insurance Co.; a partner in the Fitchburg Woollen Mill, and a director of the Putnam Machine Co. and of the Parkhill Manufacturing Co. The past twelve years he has been an influential director of the Fitchburg Railroad Co. and is a trustee of Smith College, Northampton.

His ambition in political affairs has been restrained by the exacting burdens of business and the magnitude of the interests demanding his attention. He was a selectman of the town of Fitchburg, and has several times refused the nomination of his party and of the citizens for mayor. He was a member of the Legislature 1873, and of the Governor's Council 1881, 1882 and 1883. It is an honorable record, yet many men of less worth, less success in business and less usefulness in general affairs, have figured more conspicuously and have rendered less efficient service with greater pomp and ceremony.

By a munificent act Mr. Wallace has presented an enduring demonstration of public spirit and love for his fellow-men. In 1881 he purchased a site conveniently located on Main street. Here he erected a substantial edifice at an expense of nearly $100,000 and presented it to the city of Fitchburg for the uses of a free public library, reading rooms and galleries of art. Its profit

and usefulness can be computed only by the measure of duration, and as succeeding generations enjoy the strengthening influences of a prudent and thoughtful liberality, they cannot fail to recall and accept the thought of the donor, "that to many of our people these rooms may prove to be a place of rest and profit, and help make the journey of life more pleasant and useful."

Mr. Wallace is courteous and affable in manner and loyal in his friendship. In the reserve of his nature he is restrained from impetuous demonstration, but in every social and public duty his friendship, his influence and his assistance are put forth with commanding effect. If his activities are circumscribed by reason and prudence, his conclusions are deliberately formed and founded upon a comprehensive study of the attending facts. In him are combined diligence and sagacity, and above all a lofty standard of honor and integrity.

Mr. Wallace md. Dec. 1, 1853, Sophia Ingalls, dau. of Thomas and Sophia (Shurtleff) Ingalls of Rindge. She d., leaving two sons, June 20, 1871. He md. (2d) Dec. 28, 1876, Sophia F. (Billings) Bailey of Woodstock, Vt. The sons reside in Fitchburg and are associated with their father in business.

23 I. *Herbert I.*, b. Feb. 17, 1856. Harvard University, Class of 1877. He md. Oct. 23, 1879, Amy Louisa Upton of Fitchburg.

24 II. *George R.*, b. June 20, 1859; pursued a course of study at the Institute of Technology, Boston. He md. Nov. 10, 1886, Nellie Maria Howland of Fitchburg.

1 FRED W. WALTHER, a native of Germany, md. Dec. 9, 1861, Wilhelmina Bueron and removed to this town. He is a gardener. Two of their five children d. young.

2 I. *William F.*, b. March 30, 1864; md. Feb. 18, 1886, Eva R. Reed—see Kelton register.

3 II. *Anna*, b. June 3, 1866; d. Oct. 8, 1883.

4 III. *Fred*, b. April 15, 1870.

1 CALEB WARD, son of Thaddeus and Lydia (Benjamin) Ward, was b. in Waltham Nov. 22, 1748; bap. Nov. 27. He removed to this town about 1770 and settled where Joseph H. Small now resides, known as the Alvan Ward farm. He was a selectman and his name is frequently met in the records. He md. Jan. 22, 1772, Rebecca Foster, dau. of Jeremiah Foster, *q. v.* He d. June 20,

1813, aged 65 years; she d. March 22, 1831, aged 81 years. To the record of her death Rev. George Perkins appends, "She has lived in this town 77 years and about 60 years in the house in which she died."

2 I. *Samuel*, b. Dec. 22, 1772.+
3 II. *Sarah*, b. Oct. 27, 1774: md. May 25, 1806, Thomas Piper; lived in Weston, Vt.
4 III. *Rebecca*, b. 1776; d. Nov. 23, 1780.
5 IV. *Caleb*, b. Aug. 6, 1778.+
6 V. *Nahum*, b. Aug. 7, 1780; resided some years in Peterboro', N. H., and subsequently joined the Mormons.
7 VI. *Jacob*, b. Nov. 22, 1782.+
8 VII. *Jonas*, b. Feb. 15, 1785; md. Dec. 24, 1812, Susan F. Thurston, b. Sept. 18, 1792, dau. of Nathan and Sally (Campbell) Thurston of Oxford. They lived in Oxford.
9 VIII. *Rebecca*, b. Sept. 14, 1788; md. Ezra Lawrence, *q. v.*
10 IX. *Lucy*, b. July 28, 1790; md. March 14, 1815, Samuel Wilson, and lived in Nelson, N. H.

(2) DEA. SAMUEL WARD was a farmer in this town and during the winter season for some years he was a school-teacher. He was chosen a deacon of the Congregational church in 1817 and was continued in office until 1843. He md. April 15, 1799, Ruth Townsend, b. Oct. 28, 1774, dau. of Joshua Townsend and a sister of Reuben Townsend, Sen., *q. v.* He d. May 18, 1845; she d. Oct. 16, 1850.

11 I. *Alvan*, b. April 26, 1800.+
12 II. *Sylvia*, b. Sept. 22, 1801; md. Dea. Gilman Jones, *q. v.*

(5) CALEB WARD, son of Caleb, md. July 26, 1810, Mary Rice, dau. of Jonah Rice, *q. v.* He was a farmer and in his younger years a school-teacher. He d. Aug. 6, 1833; his widow md. (2d) Jonathan Winchester, Jr., *q. v.*

13 I. *Myra*, b. Sept. 5, 1811; md. Abel Farwell, *q. v.*
14 II. *Ede*, b. Nov. 19, 1814; md. Addison Howe, *q. v.*
15 III. *Mary*, b. Sept. 15, 1818; md. Christopher Jones, *q. v.*: md. (2d) Addison Bancroft; d. March 19, 1869.
16 IV. *Emma*, b. July 2, 1820; md. April 6, 1842, John Barrett of Ashby.

17 v. *Stephen*, b. Jan. 12, 1823; md. Nov. 2, 1849, Mary Ann Farrington, b. in Boston April 4, 1823. He is a farmer on the Jacob Ward farm at North Village.

18 vi. *Cynthia Avesta*, b. Nov. 19, 1825; md. April 20, 1851, Alpheus Swallow; live in Dunstable.

(7) Jacob Ward, son of Caleb, md. March 29, 1810, Sally Whitmore, dau. of Isaac Whitmore, *q. v.* He was a farmer and was also engaged in the manufacture of chair stock and wood ware. He was in the War of 1812. He d. Jan. 12, 1852; his widow d. Jan. 17, 1859.

19 i. *Alvan Foster*, b. Aug. 14, 1810; md. Jan. 29, 1837, Elzina E. Manning, dau. of Solomon Manning, Jr., *q. v.*

20 ii. *Caleb Burbank*, b. May 6, 1813; md. July 3, 1839, Abigail Mixer, b. Oct. 13, 1815, dau. of Charles and Mehitable (Smith) Mixer of Rindge. He resided in Rindge until 1845 and subsequently in Dedham.

21 iii. *Salem Town*, b. Jan. 21, 1815; md. Mary Ann Kendall of Nashua, N. H.

22 iv. *Jacob V.*, b. Sept. 17, 1816; md. Nov. 30, 1848, Harriet L. Fairbanks, dau. of Jacob Fairbanks, *q. v.*; she d. Nov. 29, 1852.

23 v. *Isaac Dennis*, b. Oct. 27, 1817.+

24 vi. *Oren Prentice*, b. Aug. 14, 1819; md. Ruth Kendall of Wilmington.

25 vii. *Martin Newton*, b. March 19, 1821; md. Dec. 7, 1845, Lucy D. Lewis of Wilmington; lived in Rindge where he d. Dec. 24, 1883.

26 viii. *Lewis Kimball*, b. March 24, 1823; md. Sept. 22, 1845, Sarah H. Keyes, dau. of Samuel Keyes, *q. v.*

27 ix. *Quincy Remus*, b. June 6, 1825: md. Feb. 14, 1852, Isabel Goodwin; resides in Woburn.

28 1. Mason E., b. Aug. 21, 1853; md. Aug. 20, 1884, Mary White.

29 2. Winfield Scott, b. May 3, 1861; graduate Tufts College 1883. Principal of High School, Hollis, N. H., one year; since 1884 instructor in Cushing Academy. He md. March 12, 1885, M. Jennie Cameron.

30 x. *Harriet Zula*, b. Feb. 10, 1827; md. April 12, 1849, Abijah Hinds of Gardner.

31 xi. *Levi Lincoln*, b. Nov. 2, 1828; md. Anna Grey of Hallowell, Me.

32 xii. *Elsie Salina*, b. April 21, 1830; md. George E. Lewis of Peabody.

33 xiii. *Waldo Webster*, b. April 15, 1832; md. Sophronia Tuttle of Chester, Vt.

34 xiv. *Zoa L.*, b. May 28, 1832; md. June 1, 1853, Lowell F. White, son of William and Mary G. (Wilson) White of Deering, N. H. They reside in Hillsboro', N. H. One son.

35 1. Frank L., b. June 18, 1865.

(11) Alvan Ward, son of Dea. Samuel Ward, md. Oct. 23, 1823, Eusebia Russell. b. in Rindge Sept. 14, 1797, dau. of Eliakim and Sarah (Converse) Russell. He was a farmer and for several years he was engaged in the manufacture of chair stock. He d. June 20, 1869; his widow d. Aug. 24, 1875.

36 i. *Mary Ann T.*, b. Dec. 17, 1824; md. Calvin Dows. He d. Feb. 18, 1874.

37 ii. *George P.*, b. Aug. 18, 1826; md. July 22, 1849, Eunice K. Wood, dau. of Jonathan Wood, *q. v.* He served in 14th New Hampshire Volunteers; resides in Troy, N. H.

38 iii. *Achsah C.*, b. Aug. 12, 1828; md. Milton Brooks, *q. v.*

39 iv. *Ivers*, b. Feb. 18, 1830; d. Dec. 28, 1831.

40 v. *Franklin W.*, b. July 19, 1833; resides in Winchendon. He is a job printer and proprietor and editor of *The Winchendon Courier*. He md. Sophronia Stone.

41 vi. *Marcus L.*, b. March 12, 1834; md. Julia A. Muzzey of Winchendon.

42 vii. *William L. G.*, b. Aug. 15, 1835; md. Abigail Bride.

43 viii. *Angeline G.*, b. Feb. 15, 1839; md. John Baldwin. He was killed in the service, May 2, 1863. She md. (2d) Henry C. Whitcomb; she d. Aug. 24, 1867.

(23) Isaac D. Ward md. Oct. 31, 1843, Rebecca A. Cushing, dau. of Laban Cushing, *q. v.* They reside at North Village, where he has been engaged in the manufacture of wood ware and has been an assessor and selectman several years. In town and parish affairs he has been an active and influential citizen.

44 i. *Flora E.*, b. April 27, 1845; md. Charles E. Woodward, *q. v.*
45 ii. *Ella M.*, b. April 13, 1847; md. La Roy Butler, *q. v.*
46 iii. *Lelia A.*, b. Aug. 7, 1849; d. March 12, 1850.
47 iv. *Effie A.*, b. Jan. 19, 1855; md. Dec. 16, 1880, Frank H. Rideout of Fitchburg. They reside in Gardner.

48 WILLIAM WARD, a brother of Caleb, was b. in Waltham July 5, 1757; bap. July 17. He came to this town in his youth and after a few years settled near Ward pond. He served several enlistments in the Revolution which are stated in Chapters V and VI. He md. March 7, 1787, Mrs. Sarah (Draper) Brooks. He d. Dec. 5, 1846; she d. March, 1835.

49 i. *William*, b. March 7, 1788.+
50 ii. *Lydia*, b. Feb. 19, 1790; md. May 23, 1839, Benjamin Blaney; lived in this town, where she d. March 3, 1857. Several children but no record is received.
51 iii. *Nathaniel Draper*, b. June 10, 1793.+
52 iv. *Thaddeus*, b. Nov. 12, 1795; d. unmd. about 1868.
53 v. *Jesse*, b. Feb. 14, 1798; *non comp.*; d. Jan. 12, 1856.
54 vi. *Benjamin*, b. April 1, 1801.+

(49) WILLIAM WARD resided a few years in Marlboro', N. H., but settled in Plainfield, N. H., where he was a farmer and a merchant. He was a respected citizen and a deacon of the Congregational church. He md. March 6, 1817, Rebecca Barrett, b. May 26, 1789, dau. of Joseph and Sarah (Brooks) Barrett of Mason, N. H.; md. (2d) 1826, Rebecca Boynton of Mason, N. H. He d. Feb. 8. 1863.

55 i. *William B.*, b. May 8, 1818; md. April 5, 1853, Maria P. Fuller; a farmer in Plainfield, N. H.
56 ii. *Rebecca*, b. 1822: md. Norman Smith of Lempster, N. H.; d. 1864.
57 iii. *Sarah*, b. 1824; md. George C. Freeman of Plainfield, N. H.
58 iv. *Benjamin F.*, b. 1827; a merchant in Plainfield, N. H.; md. Edna S. Davis; md. (2d) Elizabeth P. Spalding.

59 v. *Alfred*, b. 1828; a farmer in Spring Lake, Mich.; md. March 17, 1859, Mary E. Burnap of Plainfield, N. H.

60 vi. *Cyrus*, b. April 1, 1830; a baker in Springfield, Vt.; md. Martha W. Thornton.

(51) NATHANIEL DRAPER WARD, son of William, md. 1816, Betsey Haven, dau. of Jonathan Haven, *q. v.* He lived in the south part of the town. He d. Oct. 18, 1859; his widow d. Sept. 22, 1877. Two of their eleven children d. in infancy.

61 i. *Benjamin Sabin*, b. Oct. 9, 1817; d. in New Orleans, La., Oct. 31, 1841.

62 ii. *Martha*, b. Nov. 26, 1819; md. Amos F. Lane, *q. v.*

63 iii. *Mary*, b. Jan. 22, 1821; md. Stephen Wood, *q. v.*

64 iv. *Nancy*, b. Aug. 12, 1823; md. Elijah Haven, *q. v.*

65 v. *Elmira*, b. April 15, 1825; d. May 25, 1844.

66 vi. *Horace Parker*, b. March 27, 1827; md. May 27, 1850, Elizabeth O'Farye; resides in Sterling, Minn.

67 vii. *Lucinda*, b. Feb. 17, 1829; resides unmd. at Honolulu, Sandwich Islands.

68 viii. *George Washington*, b. June 2, 1832; md. July 23, 1860, Phebe A. Cole; resides at Garden City, Minn.

69 ix. *Charles Lewis*, b. July 5, 1834; md. April 29, 1857, Sarah Jane Clare, who d. June 8, 1867; md. (2d) Sarah Norman; resides in Kansas. Formerly he was a magistrate and postmaster in Minnesota. In the Civil War he served in Fifth Iowa Cavalry.

(54) BENJAMIN WARD was a farmer in this town. He owned and occupied the farm near the homestead of his father, now of Laban W. Wright. He md. Nov. 29, 1838, Melinda Lane, dau. of Benjamin Lane, *q. v.* He d. Sept. 16, 1860; his wife d. Feb. 25, 1855.

70 i. *Elliot Benjamin*, b. March 6, 1840; drowned Aug. 8, 1857.

71 ii. *Henry William*, b. Dec. 16, 1841; he is a farmer in Greeley, Col.; md. April 29, 1874, Hattie H. Orr. Two children.

72 iii. *Edwin Franklin*, b. Dec. 27, 1843; he is farming and sheep raising in Greeley, Col.; unmd.

73 iv. *Sarah Isabel*, b. May 16, 1847; md. March 19, 1868, Lemuel Whitney, son of Dwell Whitney, *q. v.*

74 John Ward, b. in Sutton June 10, 1746, was a son of Jonas and Abigail (Child) Ward. He lived in Westminster near the line of Ashburnham, and died in that town, but in social relations he was intimately connected with the people of this town. He was a member of the church in Ashburnham, his children were baptized by Mr. Cushing, and the deaths in his family are recorded in the church records. The farm was annexed to this town many years ago and is now owned by John G. Woodward. He md. ——, 1774, Mindwell Harrington, who d. Sept. 18, 1782; md. (2d) Oct. 4, 1784, Copiah Rice, b. Aug. 17, 1747, dau. of Silas and Copiah (Broughton) Rice of Westboro'. He d. Sept. 24, 1813; his widow d. March 25, 1844, aged 96, recorded 98.

75 i. *Sarah*, b. June 19, 1775; md. John Flagg; resided in Worcester.

76 ii. *Polly*, b. Oct. 12, 1777; md. July 3, 1820, John Woodward, son of Nathaniel Woodward; lived in Westminster. John G. Woodward of Ashburnham is their son.

77 iii. *Betty* (twin), b. Oct. 12, 1777; md. John Croxfield and resided in Barre, Vt.

78 iv. *John*, b. May 14, 1780.+

79 v. *Jonas*, b. July 19, 1782; md. Anna Child and lived in Westminster. She md. (2d) Americus Amsden of Windsor, Vt.

80 vi. *Lucy*, b. Dec. 8, 1785; d. young.

81 vii. *Copia*, b. May 24, 1789; md. John Mossman, *q. v.*

82 viii. *Silas*, b. July 22, 1791.+

(78) John Ward, Jr., md. April 9, 1811, Dolly Townsend, dau. of Reuben Townsend, *q. v.* He resided on the homestead, and by the change in town lines became a citizen of Ashburnham in 1824. He d. April 27, 1843; she d. July 5, 1857.

83 i. *Mary*, b. May 21, 1812; md. John G. Woodward, *q. v.*

(82) Silas Ward, son of John, md. ——, 1815, Diedama Mossman, dau. of Matthias Mossman, *q. v.* They resided in Westminster. He d. May 29, 1881; she d. Nov. 7, 1879.

84 I. *Susanna F.*, b. Oct. 13, 1817; d. Nov. 21, 1856.
85 II. *Horace*, b. Aug. 24, 1824; d. Nov. 5, 1849.
86 III. *Sarah F.*, b. Dec. 5, 1831; md. John M. Pratt, *q. v.*

1 SAMUEL WARREN md. Anna Merriam, b. Oct. 10, 1753, dau. of Samuel and Anna (Whitney) Merriam of Lexington. He removed to this town about 1773. An infant, perhaps Rebecca, d. July 10, 1777. He d. April 20, 1778, aged 27; she md. (2d) Dea. Jacob Harris, *q. v.*

2 I. *Rebecca*, b. Feb. 28, 1775.
3 II. *Anna*, b. April 27, 1778.

1 COL. JEHIEL WATKINS was b. in Chester, Vt., July 28, 1796. He md., about 1821, Priscilla Earle of Chester, Vt. She was b. Aug. 12, 1799. After a brief residence in Ashby they removed to this town in 1823. He was a lieutenant and captain of the militia from 1824 to 1828; subsequently he held commissions of major, lieutenant-colonel, and colonel of the regiment. In town affairs he was a man of influence and was frequently elected to office. He d. Sept. 7, 1857; his widow d. Jan. 13, 1882. They had one adopted child.

2 I. *Sarah Helen Ingraham*, b. in Chester, Vt., 1841; md. Francis A. Whitney, *q. v.*

1 JACOB WENNING, also written Winning and Wenneg, came to this town from Chelmsford in 1770, and removed to Westford in 1773. He was of Irish parentage and his residence in this town was not of sufficient duration to lead to mention were it not for the purpose of correcting a tradition that he was one of the Germans. He was a blacksmith and lived where Alden B. Marble now resides. The name of his wife was Eleanor. She was possibly a second wife.

2 I. *Jacob*, b. ——.
3 II. *Susannah*, b. ——.
4 III. *Henry*, b. ——.
5 IV. *Mary*, bap. June 27, 1772.

1 JAMES WESTON was b. in Woburn 1773. He was a son of John and Mary Atwood Weston, grandson of Isaac and Elizabeth Pratt Weston, great-grandson of Stephen and Sarah (Townsend) Weston and great-great-grand-

son of John and Sarah (Fitch) Weston of Salem. James Weston md. in Woburn 1797, Rhoda Reed, dau. of Jonas Reed, *q. v.* He removed to Ashburnham about 1800, and probably in company with the Reed family who came at that time. He d. July, 1837; his widow d. a few years subsequently.

2 I. *Rhoda*, b. Aug. 15, 1798; md. Abel Sawyer, *q. v.*
3 II. *Susan*, b. Sept. 15, 1800; md. Nov. 22, 1826, Arrington Gibson of Fitchburg.

4 1. Emerson, b. Sept. 15, 1830; md. Sept. 14, 1859, Hattie A. Wilbur; residence Brattleborough, Vt.
5 2. Albert A., b. Feb. 4, 1832; md. Jennie McCoy; residence Omaha, Neb.
6 3. Susan A., b. Jan. 22, 1835; md. Sept 27, 1858, George E. Bryant, son of George W. and Eunice (Norcross) Bryant of Fitzwilliam. He is a lawyer in Madison, Wis.

7 III. *Elijah*, b. May 23, 1804; md. 1846, Mrs. Hannah R. Wood of Winchendon. He d. in this town.
8 IV. *James Allan*, b. March 9, 1810.+
9 V. *Amos*, b. April 22, 1817; md. 1843, Rebecca Wheeler of New Ipswich; d. in New Ipswich.
10 VI. *Harriet N.*, b. Nov. 3, 1820; md. Dec. 23, 1841, Charles Taylor, b. in New Ipswich March 21, 1820, son of Samuel and Persis (Jones) Taylor (Jones register), resided in New Ipswich where she d. 1867; he md. (2d) Mary L. Gipson, widow of Henry Gipson, *q. v.*

11 1. Clinton C., b. Nov. 27, 1842; d. Oct. 17, 1861.
12 2. Henrietta M., b. July 16, 1844.
13 3. Myron, b. July 31, 1846; md. Elizabeth Crosby; residence in Boston; chief clerk Boston and Lowell Railroad.
14 4. Marianna, b. Feb. 17, 1849; d. Feb. 26, 1851.
15 5. Emma, b. Feb. 20, 1854; md. Sept. 3, 1878, Frank Herbert Hardison, b. in Rindge Sept. 3, 1849, son of Samuel J. and Louisa (Hastings) Hardison. He is editor of Greenfield *Gazette and Courier*.

16 6. Carrie, b. Jan. 22, 1857; md. July 2, 1883, Frederick S. Maynard of Wilton, N. H. He d. June 23, 1886; she d. Aug. 25, 1886.

(8) James A. Weston md. Dec. 24, 1835, Elizabeth S. Borman, b. in Winchendon Feb. 27, 1815, dau. of Charles Borman. They resided in this town until 1848 when they removed to New Ipswich, where he d. Aug. 18, 1852; she md. (2d) Ebenezer Blake of Rindge.

17 i. *Harlan Marcellus*, b. Nov. 4, 1836; d. Oct. 20, 1838.
18 ii. *Mary Elizabeth*, b. Oct. 31, 1839; md. Edwin J. Stearns, *q. v.*
19 iii. *Harlan A.*, b. May 9, 1844; d. June 6, 1847.
20 iv. *Ellen M.*, b. June 22, 1848; md. May 27, 1874, Frank E. Wellington, b. in Rindge May 27, 1852, son of Gilman P. and Mary Ann (Jones) Wellington. They reside in Leominster.
21 v. *Charles A.*, b. April 29, 1850; d. Aug. 30, 1867.

1 Ethan Wetherbee md. Dec. 31, 1775, Lucretia Adams, dau. of Capt. Thomas Adams, *q. v.*, and removed from Cambridge to this town in 1776 or 1777. It is suggested that he was the landlord of the historic Black Horse Inn in Menotomy, where the Committee of Safety held meetings in April, 1775, and where Gerry, Orne and Lee witnessed by moonlight the march of the British troops on their advance toward Lexington and Concord. In the names of his children appear Samuel Cook, Abigail Bowman and Betsey Sanders, which are suggestive to persons conversant with the annals of Menotomy. In 1787 Mr. Wetherbee appears to be residing in Medford, but with little exception he lived in this town and is frequently named in the records until 1798, when he sold his farm to Isaac Hill and removed to Keene, N. H. The births of his children are not recorded, but Mr. Cushing found frequent employment in the baptism of a numerous progeny.

2 i. *Betsey Sanders*, bap. July 27, 1777.
3 ii. *Abigail Bowman*, bap. April 18, 1779.
4 iii. *Samuel Cook*, bap. May 27, 1781.
5 iv. *Lucretia*, bap. May 25, 1783.
6 v. *Simon Peter*, bap. May 6, 1785.
7 vi. *David*, bap. July 25, 1790.
8 vii. *Jonathan* (twin), bap. July 25, 1790.

9 VIII. *Ethan*, bap. July 25, 1790.
10 IX. *Lydia*, bap. July 29, 1792; d. June 7, 1794.
11 X. *Lydia*, bap. July 6, 1794.
12 XI. *Mary*, bap. Sept. 25, 1796.

13 PHINEHAS WETHERBEE, probably from Stow, came to Ashburnham about 1765. He md. (Int.) June 7, 1767, Hannah Whitney of Stow. In 1776 the family removed to Stow.

14 I. *Betty*, b. Nov. 9, 1768.
15 II. *Catherine*, b. Dec. 16, 1770.
16 III. *Dolly*, b. Feb. 21, 1773.
17 IV. *Hannah*, b. March 20, 1775.

18 AMOS WETHERBEE md. in Ashburnham Nov. 26, 1789, Sarah Foster and removed about 1800 to Cavendish, Vt.

19 I. *Abel*, b. June 16, 1790.
20 II. *Stephen*, b. Nov. 21, 1791.
21 III. *Sarah*, b. Dec. 24, 1793.
22 IV. *Lydia*, b. Dec. 7, 1795.
23 V. *Amos*, b. March 6, 1798; md. Aug. 31, 1824, Sarah Maynard, a sister of Antipas Maynard; resided in Lowell.

24 DEA. JOSEPH WETHERBEE, son of Joseph and Mary (Farr) Wetherbee, was b. in Ashby Dec. 4, 1810. He was a chairmaker in this town and a deacon of the Union church. He md. April 18, 1844, Mary E. Fletcher, dau. of Joshua Fletcher, *q. v.* He d. Aug. 13, 1847. She md. (2d) Aug. 7, 1852, George W. Todd of Rindge. Two children b. in Ashburnham.

25 I. *Prescott W.*, b. Feb. 1, 1847; d. Feb. 22, 1847.
26 II. *Joseph F.*, b. Jan. 8, 1848; md. 1872, Arabella S. Nichols, dau. of Thomas S. Nichols of Peterboro'; resides in Fitchburg.

27 MARSHALL WETHERBEE, son of Josiah and Clarissa (Sawtell) Wetherbee, was b. in Rindge June 30, 1817. The lineage of the Wetherbee and Sawtell families is traced in the History of Rindge. Mr. Wetherbee removed to this town in 1844, and the following year he purchased a livery property and has successfully continued the business to the present time. He was a deputy-sheriff twelve years and has been a State constable. In town affairs he

has been employed many years as collector, constable, overseer of the poor and selectman. He is a director of the First National Bank and a trustee of the Savings Bank of Gardner. He md. Oct. 13, 1842, Marinda Whitaker, dau. of Levi and Eunice (Tarbell) Whitaker of Mason, N. H.

28 I. *George M.*, b. Dec. 25, 1843; md. March 3, 1868, Mary Ellen Livingston; he served in the 21st Regiment.
29 II. *Charles H.*, b. June 2, 1847; d. Sept. 22, 1847.
30 III. *Charles H.*, b. Oct. 2, 1848; d. Sept. 6, 1849.
31 IV. *Sidney J.*, b. Jan. 8, 1851; md. March, 1872, Hattie M. Farwell of Mason, N. H.; he d. Sept. 23, 1883; she md. (2d) W. Fred. White.
32 V. *Charles P.*, b. Nov. 4, 1852; resides in this town.
33 VI. *Clara J.*, b. Sept. 7, 1854; d. Aug. 28, 1868.
34 VII. *Emma J.*, b. Sept. 28, 1856; md. May 26, 1880, Otis H. Norcross, b. May 8, 1851, son of Joshua and Calista K. (Cooper) Norcross of Rindge; reside in Rindge.
35 VIII. *William H.*, b. Sept. 5, 1858; resides in Greenfield.

36 BENJAMIN E. WETHERBEE was b. in Brookline, N. H., July 4, 1821. He is a son of Benjamin and Hannah (Wadsworth) Wetherbee and a grandson of Timothy Wetherbee of Mason, N. H. He md. May 25, 1847, Sarah Helen Bruce, b. April 29, 1825, dau. of Silas and Melinda Bruce of Templeton, and resided some years in Townsend where he was a town officer, and in 1854 a representative to the Legislature. He removed to this town 1860 and has been engaged in the manufacture of chairs and bent chair stock. He resides on the John Willard farm. In this town he has been frequently elected to office.

37 I. *Eloise Helen*, b. June 22, 1856; a music teacher.

1 SAMUEL WHEELER, son of John Wheeler, b. Aug. 11, 1762, md. in Ashburnham May 7, 1793, Elizabeth Taylor, dau. of Jonathan Taylor, *q. v.* He lived on the Clary farm in New Ipswich, where he d. Feb. 14, 1839.

2 DANIEL WHEELER, son of Samuel, b. in New Ipswich July 1, 1800, md. April 3, 1823, Rhoda Taylor, dau. of Nathan Taylor, *q. v.* He was a farmer in this town residing on the farm now of his son Daniel. He d. April 3, 1848; she d. Dec. 4, 1848.

3 i. *Samuel*, b. March 15, 1824; md. May 5, 1853, Permelia Whitney. He is a carpenter in New Ipswich.

4 ii. *Rhoda*, b. Jan. 31, 1826; md. Dec. 6, 1856, Jonathan Coburn of New Ipswich.

5 iii. *Daniel*, b. Jan. 25, 1828; md. Dec. 4, 1860, Mary Drinan. He is a farmer on the homestead.

6 1. Mary Elizabeth, b. April 24, 1862; md. 1886.

7 2. Nathan Taylor, b. March 17, 1864.

8 iv. *George*, b. April 30, 1830.

9 v. *Elizabeth*, b. Dec. 14, 1832; md. May 6, 1858, William Jeffrey; reside in Hudson.

10 vi. *John*, b. Oct. 9, 1835; d. Sept. 10, 1837.

11 vii. *Lois*, b. Jan. 31, 1840.

12 Capt. Asahel Wheeler, b. 1814, came to this town in youth. He md. Oct. 6, 1836, Susan S. Lawrence, dau. of Capt. Jeremiah Lawrence. She d. Aug. 28, 1845; md. (2d) Feb., 1846, Eliza (Wright) Carlton, widow of John Carlton and dau. of Abel Wright, *q. v.* He d. 1855; his widow d. in Ashby. Capt. Wheeler was a member of the Ashburnham Light Infantry and an officer seven years. He was commissioned captain in 1844.

13 i. *Asahel*, b. Sept. 8, 1839. He was in the service in the Civil War and was a captain of 21st and of 61st Regiments. *Vide* page 445. After the war he was the first captain of the Rice Guards. Nearly twenty years ago Capt. Wheeler removed to Fitchburg and was of the police of that city several years. He md. 1861, Lydia A. Winship, dau. of Sylvester and Lucy (Munroe) Winship; she d. July 28, 1862; he md. (2d) Sarah J. Beckwith of Fitchburg.

1 Russell Whipple, a son of Otis and Amy (Harkness) Whipple, was b. in Richmond, N. H., Jan. 22, 1820. He md. 1840, Mary Scollay, dau. of Grover Scollay, *q. v.* During the ensuing twenty years they resided in Ashburnham, in Royalston, Richmond, N. H., New Ipswich, Winchendon and again in Ashburnham. He enlisted in the 53d Regiment and was killed at Port Hudson, June 14, 1863; she d. Nov. 11, 1882.

2 i. *Eunice L.*, b. March 19, 1841.

3 II. *George W.*, b. Sept. 21, 1842; md. 1867, Laura Barrett, dau. of Townsend Barrett, *q. v.*
4 III. *Frederick R.*, b. July 6, 1844; md. 1868, Emily Barrett, dau. of Townsend Barrett, *q. v.*
5 IV. *Charles N.*, b. Sept. 17, 1845; md. 1868, Nancy M. James.
6 V. *James A.*, b. Oct. 16, 1847.
7 VI. *Joseph A.*, b. Jan. 11, 1851.
8 VII. *Emma A.*, b. Aug. 10, 1853; md. —— Paulding.
9 VIII. *Sarah E.*, b. May 14, 1855.
10 IX. *Ella J.*, b. April 27, 1857.
11 X. *Martha L.*, b. Aug. 17, 1859.
12 XI. *Moulton H.*, b. Aug. 12, 1862.

1 WILLIAM WHITCOMB, with wife Hannah and several children, came from Harvard to this town in 1762. At the organization of the town in 1765, he was elected town clerk. This office he filled only two years, but he was subsequently elected moderator, selectman, and for a number of years he was among the foremost men in the town. He was frequently chosen on committees during the Revolution, and in 1783 he was a representative to the General Court. He d. Dec. 3, 1792. The records furnish very little information of this family and it is not known how many children there were nor the order of age of the following.

2 I. *Elias*, b. ——.†
3 II. *Oliver*, b. ——; md. Oct. 16, 1770, Dorcas Dickinson, *q. v.*
4 III. *Lucy*, b. ——; md. Simeon Brooks, *q. v.*
5 IV. *Persis*, b. ——; md. Isaac Blodgett, *q. v.*

(2) ELIAS WHITCOMB md. Aug. 9, 1781, Dinah Brooks and resided in this town until 1800, when he removed to Ashby. His wife d. 1806; he md (2d) 1807, Sally Bonner of Hancock, N. H.

6 I. *Relief*, b. Oct. 30, 1781; md. Elias Blodget, *q. v.*
7 II. *Dinah*, b. Aug. 13, 1783; d. Aug. 20, 1783.
8 III. *Hannah*, b. June 27, 1786; md. Job Foster.
9 IV. *Louisa*, b. March 29, 1788; md. —— Haynes.
10 V. *Mary*, b. April 25, 1791; md. Moses Sanderson, Jr., *q. v.*
11 VI. *Nancy*, b. March 25, 1796; md. —— Edwards.
12 VII. *Lucinda*, b. Feb. 2, 1801; md. Charles Buttrick.

13 VIII. *Esther*, b. April 6, 1805; md. —— Blood.
14 IX. *Elaph*, b. April 20, 1810.

1 JOHN WHITE was a soldier in the Continental service from 1777 to 1780. He was in Col. Greaton's regiment, and on one roll he is counted on the quota of Easton and on another roll on the quota of this town, but both records assert that he was a resident of Ashburnham. He md. Ruth Holden, and settled in the southwest part of the town not long before he entered the army. In 1785 his farm was included in Gardner, and his continued record was in that town, where he d. 1806. Three or four of the older children were b. in this town.

2 I. *Betsey*, b. Sept. 21, 1776; md. William Bickford, Jr., of Gardner. She d. 1841.
3 II. *Abigail*, b. April 30, 1780; d. young.
4 III. *John*, b. May 5, 1782; md. Persis Comee; lived in Gardner.
5 IV. *Polly*, b. Feb. 17, 1784; md. John Parker of Gardner.
6 V. *Augustine*, b. Feb. 24, 1786.
7 VI. *Abner*, b. Dec. 10, 1787.
8 VII. *Rebecca*, b. May 9, 1790.
9 VIII. *Lucy*, b. Oct 26, 1792.
10 IX. *Abigail*, b. April 20, 1796.

11 DEA. ELISHA WHITE was a native of Lancaster. He was a descendant of John White, one of the early settlers of Lancaster, where his descendants were numerous and influential. In the early history of that town few names were more prominent in civil and ecclesiastical affairs. The records of Lancaster are not complete, and the names of Elisha and Josiah are so frequently met that the lineage of individual members of this family is not easily traced. Elisha White of Ashburnham was b. in Lancaster June 18, 1759; he md. Oct 10, 1780, Deborah Hunt, b. in Lancaster Oct. 29, 1760, dau. of Sherebiah and Deborah (Wilder) Hunt, and a sister of Dea. Sherebiah Hunt of this town. After his marriage he lived a short time at Plymouth, Vt., but settled in Ashburnham in 1782. He was a farmer and a carpenter. In town affairs he was one of the foremost men of his time, serving as town clerk, moderator, selectman and assessor. From 1798 until his death he was a deacon of the church, and among his fellow-men his opinions were respected and his character was above reproach. He d. June 14, 1817; his widow d. March 26, 1846, aged 85.

12 I. *Josiah*, b. Nov. 2, 1782.+
13 II. *Anna*, b Oct. 26, 1784; md. Jesse Holbrook, *q. v.*
14 III. *Elisha*, b. May 17, 1787.+
15 IV. *Sherebiah Hunt*, b. Feb. 26, 1790; md. Lois Stocker; resided in Springfield, Vt., subsequently in Unity, N. H., where he d. ——, 1883.
16 V. *Deborah*, b. Jan. 22, 1792; md. ——, John Harrington.
17 VI. *Peter*, b. April 29, 1794; md. ——, Nancy Stocker.
18 VII. *Dorinda*, b. May 25, 1796; d. unmd. ——, 1837.
19 VIII. *Mary*, b. July 15, 1799; md. Stephen Corey, *q. v.*
20 IX. *David*, b. Nov. 27, 1801; md. Sarah Newcomb. He was a contractor and builder, doing an extensive business; resided in Gloucester.
21 X. *Ivers*, b. June 25, 1804.+
22 XI. *Sarah*, b. Nov. 17, 1806; md. June 6, 1833, Jonas Lawrence, *q. v.*

(12) JOSIAH WHITE, son of Dea. Elisha White, was a carpenter in this town. He was a member of the Ashburnham Light Infantry and was in the service in 1814 at Boston Harbor. He md. Feb. 8, 1807, Matilda Stone, dau. of Joseph Stone, *q. v.*; she d. Feb. 4, 1838; md. (2d) May 13, 1840, Betsey Bly, dau. of James Bly of Andover. He d. Oct. 24, 1871.

23 I. *Josiah E.*, b. May 20, 1809; md. April 10, 1835, Betsey Lawrence, dau. of Dea. William J. Lawrence, *q. v.*; she d. Aug. 10, 1846; md. (2d) Mary Moore. He removed to Lowell 1848, and was there a merchant; resides in Laconia, N. H.
24 II. *Susan Gates*, b. July 21, 1811; d. Aug. 24, 1833.
25 III. *Nancy Hayden*, b. Feb. 24, 1813; md. George Davis, *q. v.*
26 IV. *Amos S.*, b. April 6, 1816; he is a merchant in Weymouth; md. Eunice Bowditch.
27 V. *Mary Matilda*, b. Aug. 4, 1818; md. ——, Dr. Ebenezer T. Learned; resides in Fall River; he d. ——.
28 VI. *Ivers Warren*, b. July 9, 1820; md. Elizabeth Wheeler of Fitchburg.
29 VII. *Sarah Cushing*, b. Dec. 27, 1822; md. Sept. 22, 1845, James H. Warner, b. in Boston Sept. 10, 1813; d. in Fitchburg Sept. 18, 1859. She resides in Ashby.

30 1. James E., b. Aug. 27, 1846; md. Nov. 21, 1867, Ella K. Bly, b. Aug. 29, 1845, dau. of James Bly. They reside at South Village.
31 2. Mary E., b. Nov. 29, 1848; md. Henry Burr, son of Samuel Burr of Ashby.
32 3. Jane W., b. Oct. 1, 1852; d. young.
33 4. Francilla A., b. June 8, 1856; md. Herbert Sadler; they reside at Beverly.

34 VIII. *Joseph Wilder*, b. March 30, 1825; md. Susan Lake; md. (2d) Sarah Loud; he is a carpenter at Lebanon, N. H.

35 IX. *Charles H.*, b. Nov. 12, 1841; md. Nov. 29, 1866, Florence H. Stowe, dau. of David and Mary (Converse) Stowe. He was a veteran of the 21st Regiment, serving in the Civil War four years. He has been a member of the volunteer militia nearly twenty years, and is now a lieutenant of Company E. He resides on the homestead.

36 X. *Susan E.*, b. Oct. 20, 1843; d. May 29, 1865.

37 XI. *Ellen T.*, b. June 8, 1847; md. Nov. 21, 1867, Edward G. Newell; residence in Gardner.

38 XII. *Emma F.* (twin), b. June 8, 1847; d. July 18, 1847.

(14) ELISHA WHITE md. Jan., 1818, Juda Rodgers, and resided in this town until 1850, and subsequently resided in Newton where he d. He md. (2d) Mrs. —— Rodgers.

39 I. *Edwin*, b. Oct. 12, 1819, d. May 10, 1824.
40 II. *Sarah H.*, b. Nov. 25, 1824; d. ——.

(21) IVERS WHITE, after the death of his father, resided a few years in Springfield, Vt. Returning to Ashburnham in 1830, he purchased of Charles Stearns the mail route from this town to Worcester. He was engaged in this enterprise several years. Subsequently he was a house, carriage and ornamental painter. For a few years, retaining a residence in this town, he was engaged at his occupation in Fitchburg. He was adjutant of the Ninth Regiment, a deputy-sheriff, and under the Fillmore administration he was postmaster. He md. 1832, Zoa Lawrence, dau. of Dea. William J. Lawrence. He d. June 26, 1884.

41 I. *William Frederick*, b. Aug. 17, 1834; md. —— 1857, Alice A. Wheeler, dau. of Oliver Wheeler

of Ashby. They were divorced 186–; he md. (2d) March 14, 1885, Hattie M. (Farwell) Wetherbee, widow of Sidney J. Wetherbee, *q. v.* He is an ornamental painter.

42 II. *Annie Eliza Celestia*, b. March 15, 1841; md. Aug. 31, 1871, Edwin E. Spencer, M. D.; resides in Cambridgeport.

1 CHRISTIAN WILLIAM WHITEMAN, with wife Anstina and two children, with his German associates settled on Lexington grant in 1758. He was one of the proprietors of the grant and upon its division among the several owners he secured a farm, on which he lived. He was an intelligent, valued citizen. In 1796 the family removed to Haverhill, N. H.

2 I. *Catherine*, b. Oct. 18, 1752; md. Aug. 9, 1781, Henry Sunbury and resided about two years in this town; removed to Warren, N. H.

3 1. Catherine, b. 1782.

4 II. *Elizabeth*, b. April 5, 1756; md. Jacob Constantine, *q. v.*

5 III. *Anstina*, b. July 24, 1758.

6 IV. *Nicholas*, b. Feb. 19, 1761.+

7 V. *Christian*, b. Oct. 21, 1763.

8 VI. *Margaret*, b. July 20, 1766.

(6) NICHOLAS WHITEMAN served in Mitchell's regiment in 1776 and at Castle William, Col. Abijah Stearns' regiment, in 1778. He removed to Warren, N. H., in 1780, but subsequently returned to this town where he lived many years. He had a farm and a mill where Warren E. Marble now lives. In his old age he lived elsewhere with his children. He md. Aug. 23, 1781, Elizabeth Rodamel, *q. v.* A dau., aged 12 years, d. Feb. 6, 1796; a dau., aged 9 years, d. Feb. 10, 1776. Scarcely more than the names of the other children can be given.

9 I. *William*, b. ——; settled in Canada.

10 II. *Nancy*, b. ——.

11 III. *Polly*, b. ——.

12 IV. *Jacob*, b. ——; d. unmd. in this town Oct., 1835.

13 V. *Peter*, b. ——; settled in Canada.

14 JOHN WHITEMAN first appears in the records in 1765. He probably came with the other Germans in 1758. He

lived in the northeast part of the town and the family removed about 1804. The birth of one child is recorded and six others were baptized.

15 I. *Mary*, b. May 13, 1765.
16 II. *John*, bap. April 23, 1769.
17 III. *Jacob*, bap. Nov. 21, 1771.
18 IV. *Katherine*, bap. Oct. 27, 1776.
19 V. *George*, bap. May 27, 1781; d. Feb. 29, 1784.
20 VI. *Sarah*, bap. Oct. 12, 1783.
21 VII. *Hannah*, bap. May 21, 1786.

22 HENRY WHITEMAN, perhaps a son of John (14), md. 1793, Abigail Wheeler of New Ipswich. He was an ensign of the militia 1792.

WHITMORE.

FRANCIS WHITMORE, b. in England 1625, is found in Cambridge in 1649. He was a large land owner in Cambridge and the neighboring towns and resided many years and perhaps through life within the limits of the present city. When Lexington was created a precinct the bounds were described as beginning "on the southerly side of Francis Whitmore's house." It does not appear that he ever lived there and at the date of the record he had been dead several years. He served in the Indian War under Major Willard. He md. Isabel Parks, dau. of Richard Parks of Cambridge; she d. March 31, 1665; md. (2d) Nov. 10, 1666, Margaret Harty. He d. Oct. 12, 1685; she d. March 1, 1685–6. By both marriages there were thirteen children. Joseph Whitmore, youngest son of Francis and Margaret (Harty) Whitmore, b. 1675, md. Feb. 13, 1698–9, Mary Kendall, b. in Woburn Feb. 27, 1679–80, dau. of Thomas and Ruth Kendall. They were admitted to church in Lexington 1703 and the following year were dismissed to church in Woburn, where they subsequently resided. Their only son was Joseph Whitmore, b. Feb. 17, 1699–1700. He also lived in Woburn and May 23, 1719, was published to Mary Peirce; she d., leaving one son, Joseph, b. Sept. 9, 1719. Joseph, the father, was subsequently md. and reared a large family which includes the ancestors of the Newbury branch of the Whitmore family.

1 JOSEPH WHITMORE, the first of the name in Ashburnham, was a descendant in the fourth generation of Francis Whitmore, the emigrant ancestor. He was b. in Woburn Sept. 9, 1719, according to Woburn records, or Sept. 20, 1719, following the family record. He md. Dec. 21, 1741, Mary Marion of Boston, b. April 25, 1718, and removed from Woburn to Leominster between 1747 and 1749, and to Ashburnham immediately preceding 1780. He was moderator of a town meeting in this town 1780. He settled in the northwest part of the town where his great-grandson, Dr. L. L. Whitmore, now resides. The homestead has remained in the possession of his descendants to the present time. For several years, and until

retired by age, he was a prominent citizen and was often chosen to office. He d. April 18, 1805; his widow d. July 10, 1805. Three children were b. in Woburn and seven in Leominster.

2 I. *Mary*, b. Feb. 15, 1742–3; md. Enos Jones, *q. v.*
3 II. *Hannah*, b. Oct. 27, 1744; md. Shebuel Bailey and lived in Sterling.
4 III. *Rebecca*, b. July 16, 1747; md. —— Warner.
5 IV. *Joseph*, b. June 6, 1749; md. Ruth Knight; lived in Chester and Ira, Vt.
6 V. *Benjamin*, b. Oct. 22, 1751; md. Lois Stanley; lived in Chester, Vt.
7 VI. *Isaac*, b. March 3, 1755.+
8 VII. *Persis* (twin), b. March 3, 1755; md. Jonathan Winchester, *q. v.*
9 VIII. *Lucy*, b. Jan. 23, 1857; md. Jonas Brooks, *q. v.*
10 IX. *Elizabeth*, b. Feb. 8, 1759; md. Joshua Phelps.
11 X. *Edward*, b. Aug. 12, 1763.+

(7) Isaac Whitmore resided on the homestead. While a resident of Leominster he was a soldier in the Revolution. He served in the siege of Boston, participating in the battle of Bunker Hill and during the ensuing year he was in the army under Washington. In the latter service his name is borne on the roll of Capt. Maxwell's company of Col. Prescott's regiment. He was in the battle at White Plains and in the engagement at Trenton and Princeton. It is probable that he was in the service later than early in the year 1777, but he makes no mention of additional service in his application for a pension made July 8, 1819. His application was successful and he remained a pensioner until his death. He came to this town with his father and his name often appears in the choice of town officers. He is, however, more accurately described as an honest, industrious farmer, who found his chief employment in the frugal management of his own affairs. He md. 1781, Rebecca Foster, b. in Lunenburg Sept. 16, 1760, eldest dau. of Joseph and Sarah (Jones) Foster. He d. May 2, 1847; she d. Aug. 30, 1840.

12 I. *James*, b. April 23, 1782; md. Oct. 22, 1811, Phebe Stimson, dau. of Lemuel Stimson, *q. v.* Resided a few years in Londonderry, N. H., and after 1815 in Framingham.
13 II. *Levi F.*, b. Feb. 13, 1786; md. May 8, 1817, Mehitabel Edgell, b. in Framingham 1796, dau. of Aaron P. and Eleanor (Trowbridge) Edgell. He was a farmer in Marlboro'. Eight children.

14 III. *Infant*, b. ——; d. March 15, 1789.
15 IV. *Sally*, b. Sept. 7, 1790; d. Oct. 21, 1792.
16 V. *Sally*, b. Sept. 16, 1793; md. Jacob Ward, *q. v.*
17 VI. *Enoch*, b. Sept. 8, 1796.+
18 VII. *Beulah*, b. Aug. 8, 1799; md. Charles Stimson *q. v.*

(11) EDWARD WHITMORE, youngest son of Joseph, resided in this town until 1804, when he removed to Rindge, and in 1820 he removed to Enosburg, Vt., where he d. Nov. 15, 1841. He was a soldier in the Revolution. *Vide* page 197. He md. Aug. 2, 1782, Lydia Samson, dau. of Jonathan Samson, *q. v.* She d. Sept. 1, 1840.

19 I. *Patty*, b. Oct. 30, 1784; d. unmd. July 13, 1818.
20 II. *Oliver*, b. Feb. 16, 1787.+
21 III. *Sally*, b. Nov. 5, 1792; md. Henry Broats.
22 IV. *Lydia*, b. May 3, 1795; d. unmd.
23 V. *Emma*, b. Sept. 9, 1797; md. Nov. 20, 1817, Nathan Estey of Stow.
24 VI. *Isaac*, b. March 14, 1800; d. Oct. 29, 1805.
25 VII. *Levi*, b. Sept. 14, 1802; d. Oct. 10, 1805.
26 VIII. *Zoa*, b. March 20, 1806; md. ——; she d. June 21, 1841.
27 IX. *Joseph A.*, b. Dec. 3, 1807; d. Oct. 6, 1825.

(17) COL. ENOCH WHITMORE was a farmer and manufacturer in Ashburnham and a leading man of his time. *Vide* page 485. He md. Clarissa Willard, dau. of Silas Willard, Esq., *q. v.* He d. Sept. 13, 1860; she resides in Fitchburg.

28 I. *Eliza R.*, b. Oct. 25, 1818; md. Nov. 18, 1841, Horace Eames of Framingham. They resided in Springfield, where he d. May 17, 1879.
29 II. *Alfred*, b. Nov. 29, 1818; md. Feb. 5, 1846, Elmira W. Stimson, dau. of Charles Stimson, *q. v.* He was station agent at Ashburnham Junction several years and subsequently engaged in the manufacture of wood ware. He d. Jan. 4, 1873; she resides in Leominster.

30 1. Herbert E., b. July 13, 1859.
31 2. Eleanor C., b. July 18, 1861.

32 III. *Flint M.*, b. Dec. 24, 1821; unmd.; is a prosperous dealer in lumber in California; resides at Antelope Creek in Amador county.

33 iv. *Lorenzo Locke*, b. July 2, 1823; a physician and farmer of Ashburnham. *Vide* page 471. He md. Jan. 9, 1872, Mary Sophia Baker, dau. of Dea. Joel and Lucy (Newton) Baker of East Templeton.

34 v. *Silas*, b. July 10, 1824; md. Dec. 13, 1855, Althea Gibbs. He d. at Antelope Creek, Amador county, Cal., Aug. 11, 1878.

35 vi. *Clarissa*, b. Oct. 18, 1826; unmd.; resides in Fitchburg.

36 vii. *Catherine*, b. Dec. 19, 1828; md. Sept. 12, 1853, James M. Ingraham; reside in Chicago, Ill.

37 viii. *Mary*, b. Sept. 13, 1830; unmd.; resides in Fitchburg.

38 ix. *Harriet*, b. Feb. 19, 1835; unmd.; resides in Chicago, Ill.

39 x. *Orange Scott*, b. Oct. 26, 1836, was a teacher several years, and in May, 1862, was admitted to the bar at St. Albans, Vt. Enlisted the same month in Co. A, Ninth Regiment, Vermont Infantry; discharged on account of wounds in March, 1863. Was engaged in business in Chicago several years and lost the fruit of successful enterprise in the great fire. Subsequently was engaged several years in the lumber business at Cadillac, Mich., where he now resides. He md. June 1, 1866, Mary Elizabeth Stevens, b. in Watertown, N. Y., April 9, 1847, eldest dau. of Hiram B. and Emma A. Stevens. Seven of ten children are living.

40 xi. *Franklin B.*, b. April 4, 1838; md. Oct. 15, 1867, Amanda T. Frye. He is a lumber dealer in Lexington, Ky., in the firm of Rule and Whitmore.

41 xii. *Laura A.*, b. July 10, 1839; md. Francis G. Kibling, son of Francis Kibling, *q. v.*

42 xiii. *Frances Elizabeth*, b. June 10, 1841; md. Dec. 17, 1868, Albert L. Streeter, b. Sept. 14, 1841, son of Thomas and Paulina (Locke) Streeter. He is express messenger on the Fitchburg railroad with residence in Charlestown district.

(20) Oliver Whitmore md. in Rindge June 2, 1808, Sophia Stone, b. April 19, 1789, dau. of Capt. Salmon and Susanna (Page) Stone. In 1810 he returned to Ashburnham and settled in the northwest part of the town,

where he lived until after the death of his wife. He d. in Winchendon Oct. 16, 1874, aged 87; his wife d. March 4, 1863.

43 I. *Eli S.*, b. Jan. 27, 1809; md. Nov. 14, 1837, Rebecca Darling, dau. of Amos and Ede (Stone) Darling of Rindge. Resided in Rindge, Worcester and in this town, where he d. July 27, 1870.

44 1. Clara, b. April 7, 1851; d. Nov. 10, 1861.
45 2. Irving, b. Sept. 25, 1855.

46 II. *Elvira*, b. March 18, 1816; md. Nov. 26, 1839, Stephen Tolman, son of William and Mercy (Brown) Tolman. He d. June 15, 1884; she resides on the homestead in Winchendon.

47 1. George Oscar, b. Sept. 19, 1842.
48 2. Wayland, b. April 28, 1850; d. April 30, 1850.
49 3. Lizzie M., b. June 6, 1860; md. Nov. 26, 1879, Eugene P. Brooks, b. in Rindge Feb. 25, 1850, son of William S. and Frances J. (Parks) Brooks.

50 III. *Charles Farwell*, b. Oct. 10, 1819; md. April 6, 1848, Cynthia Tubbs, widow of Alvin Tubbs.
51 IV. *Laurilla*, b. July 9, 1825; d. March 17, 1832.
52 V. *George*, b. Oct. 30, 1829; md. April 19, 1855, Laurette Tubbs, dau. of Alvin and Cynthia Tubbs. He d. at Providence, R. I., May 19, 1883.

53 1. George Alvin.
54 2. Mabel Cynthia.

WHITNEY.

No other register in this volume contains an equal number of names. The Whitney families of Ashburnham are descendants of John and Elinor Whitney who embarked for New England in the Elizabeth and Ann, Roger Cooper, master, in April, 1635. At this date he was aged 35 and his wife 30. In the summer of the same year he purchased a homestead and settled in Watertown. Subsequently the town made him several grants amounting to 198 acres, and he acquired other land by purchase. He was admitted freeman March 3, 1635–6, and at once assumed and maintained a prominent position in the affairs of the settlement. He was a selectman eighteen successive years, and town clerk in 1655. Five of his eight sons were b. in England, and six of them left a numerous posterity. His wife d. May 11, 1659. He md. (2d) Sept. 29, 1659, Judah Clement, who d. previous to the date of his will, April 3, 1673. He d. June 1, 1673, aged 73.

John Whitney, eldest son of John and Elinor Whitney, was b. in England 1624, and was admitted freeman May 26, 1647. He was a selectman of Watertown six years. He md. Ruth Reynolds who survived him. He d. Oct. 12, 1692, leaving five sons and five daughters.

Nathaniel Whitney, son of John and Ruth (Reynolds) Whitney, was b. in Watertown Feb. 1, 1646-7. He md. March 12, 1673-4, Sarah Hagar, b. in Watertown Sept. 3, 1651, dau. of William and Mary (Bemis) Hagar. He resided in the part of Watertown that was included in Weston, where he d. Jan. 7, 1732-3; his widow d. May 7, 1746.

William Whitney, third of the seven children of Nathaniel and Sarah (Hagar) Whitney, was b. May 6, 1683, and resided in Weston. He md. May 17, 1706, Martha Peirce, b. Dec. 24, 1681, dau. of Joseph and Martha Peirce of Watertown. He d. Jan. 24, 1720-1. Among his five children were Samuel, who settled in Westminster, and Martha, who became the wife of Timothy Mossman, Jr., once a resident of Ashburnham.

Samuel Whitney, son of William and Martha (Peirce) Whitney, was b. in Weston May 23, 1719. He md. Oct. 20, 1741, Abigail Fletcher, and settled in Westminster. He was a leading man in the settlement and was frequently elected to office. He d. Jan. 1, 1782. The sixth of his thirteen children, b. in Westminster, was Capt. Silas Whitney of Ashburnham, No. 1 in the following register.

Another branch of the Whitney family in this town is closely allied to the descendants of Capt. Silas Whitney. Abner Whitney, another son of Samuel and Abigail (Fletcher) Whitney, was b. in Westminster May 18, 1748. He md. May 14, 1770, Elizabeth Glazier, dau. of Jonas and Eunice (Newton) Glazier of Shrewsbury; she d. April 3, 1778. He md. (2d) April 22, 1779, Levina (Glazier) Ward, b. in Shrewsbury May 9, 1752, a sister of his first wife and a widow of Jonas Ward, brother of John Ward. Abner Whitney d. Sept., 1811. Joseph G. Whitney, son of Abner and Levina Whitney, was b. in Westminster June 22, 1783. He md 1805, Levina Dunn, and resided in Westminster and Ashburnham where he d. July 31, 1868. Levina G. Whitney, his dau., is the wife of Rev. Stephen Cushing, *q. v.*, and John Whitney, his son, was a resident of Ashburnham and is No. 122 in the following register.

The Lemuel Whitney family, commencing with No. 139, are probably descendants of Richard Whitney, another son of John and Elinor Whitney, the emigrant ancestors. Richard Whitney md. Martha Caldam and settled in Stow. The records do not afford sufficient information to complete the lineage. Gen. Josiah Whitney was b. in Stow about 1730. He md. 1751, Sarah Farr. They were the parents of eighteen children, fifteen of whom d. in infancy. About 1754 he removed from Stow to Harvard, where his wife d. and he md. (2d) Sarah Dwelly of Bridgewater. By this marriage there were seven children. In 1795 Gen. Whitney removed with the younger children to Ashby, where he d. Jan. 24, 1806; his widow d. in Whitingham, Vt., Feb. 18, 1817.

1 CAPT. SILAS WHITNEY, son of Samuel and Abigail (Fletcher) Whitney, was b. in Westminster Oct. 20, 1752. He md. Jan. 27, 1774, Sarah Withington, b. in Stow 1753, dau. of William and Sarah (Locke) Withington. After his marriage he lived four years in Westminster. He sold his farm in that town in 1778 and purchased a large tract of land in the southeast part of Ashburnham. Here he soon became the leading farmer in this vicinity. The size of his barns and granaries and the number of his horses and cattle are the living theme of tradition. He

was a captain of the militia and was prominent in town affairs. In the midst of a life of industry and usefulness he d. at mid-age Nov. 14, 1798. Mr. Cushing records his death with the remark that "he died suddenly after a few days of complaining, though not confined; he was sitting in a chair leaning on a table and sunk down, and almost immediately expired." The widow settled the estate and prudently managed the affairs in the interest of her children. She md. (2d) 1802, Thomas Earle of Leicester, and d. in this town Jan. 12, 1820. There were four sons and twenty-four grandsons of Capt. Silas and Sarah (Withington) Whitney, and including the female lines the number of their descendants named in these registers is above two hundred.

2 I. *Susannah*, b. Sept. 29, 1776; md. Josiah Brown. *Vide* page 959.
3 II. *Silas*, b. Oct. 1, 1779.+
4 III. *Sarah*, b. July 1, 1781; md. Caleb Wilder, son of Samuel Wilder, Esq., *q. v.*
5 IV. *Samuel*, b. May 20, 1783.+
6 V. *William*, b. Aug. 5, 1785.+
7 VI. *Ohio*, b. March 22, 1789.+
8 VII. *Abigail*, b. May 15, 1791; md. Jesse Ellis, son of Jesse Ellis, *q. v.*
9 VIII. *Nancy*, b. Nov. 19, 1794; md. Laban Cushing, son of Capt. David Cushing, *q. v.*

(2) Josiah Brown of Stow md. April, 1797, Susannah Whitney, eldest dau. of Capt. Silas Whitney, *q. v.* They resided in Stow.

10 I. *Silas*, b. Dec. 12, 1797; d. unmd. in Stow March 4, 1856.
11 II. *Josiah*, b. Jan. 21, 1799.
12 III. *Susan*, b. July 2, 1801.
13 IV. *Ohio*, b. April 29, 1803; md. Sept. 17, 1849, Sarah Ellis, dau. of Jesse Ellis. They resided in Stow many years and both d. in this town.
14 V. *Horatio*, b. July 25, 1805; d. unmd.
15 VI. *Nancy*, b. Nov. 11, 1806.
16 VII. *Reuben*, b. March 17, 1808.
17 VIII. *Sally*, b. Sept. 17, 1811.
18 IX. *Anna*, b. May 7, 1815; md. Nov. 29, 1846, Ephraim Ray of Stow; she d. March 1, 1877.

(3) Capt. Silas Whitney, son of Capt. Silas, md. Dec. 31, 1801, Hannah Cushing, dau. of Capt. David Cushing, *q. v.* He was a farmer on a part of the homestead for

several years and was an officer in the militia at an early age. He was a lieutenant in 1803 and was styled captain after 1804 or 1805, but a record of the latter commission has not been found. He resided in Walpole, N. H., from 1810 to 1815 and possibly a year or two longer. After his return to this town he was a farmer. He was a man of more than average ability. He d. Sept. 4, 1846; his widow d. March 5, 1854.

19 I. *Silas*, b. April 28, 1803; md. April 27, 1826, Olive Knight of West Boylston.

20 II. *Hannah Cushing*, b. Sept. 15, 1805; d. in Baltimore, Md., Nov. 26, 1826.

21 III. *David Cushing*, b. Feb. 24, 1808; d. Aug. 6, 1809.

22 IV. *David Cushing*, b. April 14, 1810; md. Nov. 21, 1832, Tila Bowditch; md. (2d) Harriet A. Shepstone. He resided in Walpole, N. H., where he d. 1878.

23 1 Joseph.
24 2. Charles.

25 V. *Susan*, b. Aug. 21, 1812; d. young.

26 VI. *Charles*, b. June 18, 1815.+

27 VII. *Joseph Cushing*, b. Jan. 23, 1818; md. Feb. 3, 1842, Florence E. Weston. He is a merchant in Baltimore, Md.

28 VIII. *Sarah*, b. June 22, 1820; md. Oct. 31, 1844, James W. Gardner of Hingham. She d., *s. p.*, at Springfield May 30, 1865.

29 IX. *Milton*, b. Oct. 9, 1823; resided in Baltimore, Md. *Vide* page 492. He md. Nov. 24, 1846, Annie M. Weston. He d. Sept. 3, 1875.

(5) Samuel Whitney, son of Capt. Silas, md. Aug. 12, 1802, Abigail Wilder, dau. of Caleb Wilder, *q. v.* He was a farmer, residing on the farm now of his son, Austin Whitney. He was an enterprising, active man. He d. May 9, 1837. His wife d. Oct. 23, 1861.

30 I. *Samuel*, b. Oct. 28, 1802; d. Sept. 3, 1805.

31 II. *Merrick*, b. Dec. 31, 1804.+

32 III. *Jane Vincent Woodward*, b. Aug. 11, 1807; d. Sept. 10, 1810.

33 IV. *Samuel*, b. Feb. 25, 1810; d. Dec. 17, 1810.

34 V. *Austin*, b. Dec. 21, 1811; d. Sept. 7, 1814.

35 VI. *Charles Wilder*, b. Jan. 10, 1814.+

36 VII. *Austin*, b. April 16, 1816.+

37 VIII. *Jane Elizabeth*, b. July 7, 1818; unmd.; d. Nov. 12, 1847.

38 IX. *Samuel Vincent*, b. May 25, 1820.+

39 X. *Quincy*, b. Oct. 7, 1822.+

40 XI. *Horatio Nelson*, b. Oct. 3, 1824; was a farmer in this town; md. 1853, Mary Eliza Carlton. He d. Feb. 18, 1858; no children.

(6) WILLIAM WHITNEY, son of Capt. Silas, md. May 22, 1808, Lucy Brooks. She d. Dec. 4, 1829; md. (2d) May 7, 1830, Mercy (Burgess) Bemis, dau. of Ebenezer Burgess, *q. v.*, and widow of Jonas Bemis, *q. v.* He d. July 22, 1852; his widow resides with her youngest dau. in Fitchburg. He was a farmer; occupying a portion of the homestead, and lived above reproach.

41 I. *William*, b. July 22, 1809. *Vide* page 512. He md. May 7, 1840, Julia Emerson, dau. of Dea. Timothy Emerson; she d. Nov. 10, 1864; md. (2d) April 19, 1866, Mrs. Catherine H. Courtney. Rev. William Whitney resides at Granville, Ohio.

42 II. *Silas*, b. May 26, 1811; resides in Fitchburg; md. 1844, Susan Eddy; md. (2d) Mary E. Whitney.

43 III. *George*, b. April 6, 1814; md. 1849, Mary Wedge of Boston. He d. May, 1858. No children.

44 IV. *Lucy*, b. Dec. 27, 1818; md. Alonzo L. Willard, *q. v.*

45 V. *Catherine*, b. Feb. 3, 1820; md. William Brown of Fitchburg; md. (2d) Charles Davis of Fitchburg. There were three children of William and Catherine (Whitney) Brown, two of whom d. in infancy.

46 1. Julia, b. ——; md. Herbert A. Willard, son of Alonzo L. Willard, *q. v.*

47 VI. *Sarah Ann*, b. April 30, 1831; md. Newton Hayden, *q. v.*

(7) OHIO WHITNEY, son of Capt. Silas, was a farmer in this town, residing on a portion of the homestead. He md. Jan. 3, 1809, Mary Bolton, b. May 21, 1791, dau. of Aaron and Dorcas (Winship) Bolton of Westminster; she d. Aug. 30, 1843. He md. (2d) June 9, 1844, Dorothy (Maynard) Brown, widow of John Brown, *q. v.* He d. March 23, 1870; she d. Aug. 8, 1885. Mr. Whitney was a man of ability and unusual force of character. The record of his life and good works is



THE OHIO WHITNEY HOMESTEAD.

engraven in the annals of Ashburnham. He was a selectman several years and honorably discharged every trust. At all times and under all circumstances he commanded the respect and affectionate regard of his townsmen.

48 I. *Mary Bolton*, b. July 23, 1809; md. James Adams, *q. v.*

49 II. *Jason*, b. Feb. 10, 1811.+

50 III. *Ohio*, b. June 9, 1813.+

51 IV. *Sarah*, b. April 5, 1815; md. Walter Adams, *q. v.*

52 V. *Amos*, b. June 7, 1817.+

53 VI. *Dolly Winship*, b. Jan. 19, 1819; md. Joseph Adams, *q. v.*

54 VII. *Harriet Jackson*, b. Dec. 8, 1820; md. Salmon W. Putnam, *q. v.*

55 VIII. *Francis Alexander*, b. Aug. 2, 1823.+

56 IX. *Walter*, b. Jan. 1, 1825.+

57 X. *Ivers B.*, b. Aug. 1, 1827; d. Sept. 8, 1829.

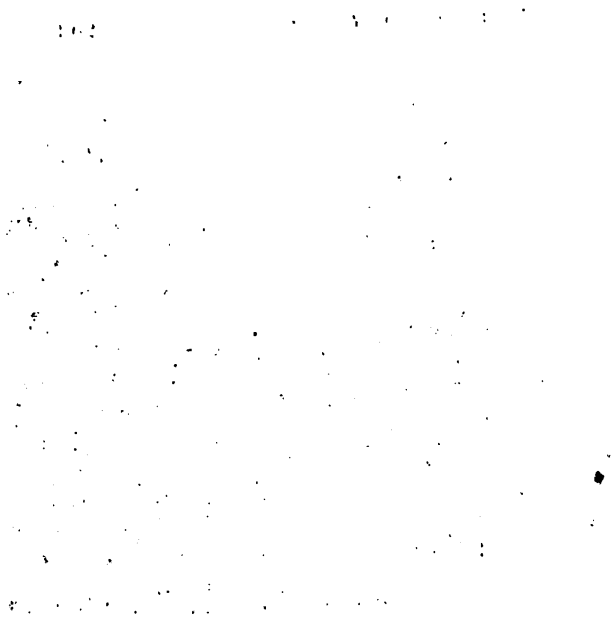
58 XI. *Aaron*, b. March 20, 1829; d. Sept. 5, 1830.

59 XII. *Nancy*, b. Feb. 23, 1831; d. Oct. 20, 1847.

60 XIII. *Abbie Ellis*, b. Feb. 25, 1836; md. Dec. 5, 1857, Charles W. Barrell, son of Dea. Luther Barrell of Westminster; he d. March 23, 1865; she md. (2d) Simeon Merritt, *q. v.*



Otis Whitney





Otis Whitney

(26) CHARLES WHITNEY, son of Silas, Jr., md. Oct. 23, 1845, Susan Davis, b. in Sterling, Jan. 22, 1822, dau. of John Davis; resides in Central Village.

61 I. *Florence Eliza*, b. Dec. 19, 1849; md. Dec. 22, 1871, Calvin W. Burbank.

62 II. *Charles Henry*, b. May 31, 1854; md. Jan. 16, 1878, Emma B. Rockwood, dau. of George Rockwood, *q. v.* They reside in this town. He has been road commissioner and is a conductor on the Ashburnham railroad.

(31) MERRICK WHITNEY, son of Samuel, md. April 5, 1830, Harriet Adams, dau. of John and Dolly (Gibson) Adams, *q. v.* He was a farmer and lived several years on the Samson farm, now of his son Hosea S. Whitney. Subsequently he lived near Central Village. He d. Dec. 2, 1881; his wife d. April 9, 1877.

63 I. *Merrick*, b. Dec. 25, 1830; resides unmd. in this town.

64 II. *Austin*, b. April 10, 1832; drowned June 10, 1846.

65 III. *Lincoln*, b. July 1, 1834; md. Feb. 5, 1859, Mary Caroline McIntire, dau. of Franklin and Mary G. (Adams) McIntire — Adams register 77. He resides in Central Village.

66 1. Jennie A., b. Dec. 20, 1862.

67 IV. *Hosea S.*, b. March 29, 1838; md. March 31, 1870, Mary Goodwin Adams, dau. of Ivers Adams, *q. v.* He is a farmer and owns the farm formerly of his father.

68 V. *Francina J.*, b. Dec. 5, 1843; md. David E. Willard, son of John Willard, *q. v.*

69 VI. *Clementina H.*, b. Feb. 2, 1847; md. Clement Edgar Willard, son of Silas Willard, *q. v.*

70 VII. *Willis W.*, b. Jan. 21, 1851; md. Nov. 24, 1886, Harriet E. Hyde, dau. of Alfred and Mary (Hastings) Hyde of Winchendon.

(35) CHARLES W. WHITNEY, son of Samuel, md. Aug. 10, 1848, Elmira M. Wilder, dau. of Joseph Wilder, *q. v.* He resides in Central Village. He is a millwright and wheelwright.

71 I. *Charles Burton*, b. Jan. 31, 1853; md. Kate G. Robinson; resides in Portland, Me.

72 II. *Alfred W.*, b. June 15, 1867.

(36) Austin Whitney, son of Samuel, was formerly a merchant in this town and for many years he was engaged in morocco dressing. He resides on the farm formerly of his father, midway between the Central and the South Village. He has been an assessor and selectman and a representative to the Legislature. He md. April 4, 1854, E. Augusta Holmes, b. Jan. 30, 1830, dau. of Leonard Holmes of Boston.

73 i. *Frederic Austin*, b. Jan. 18, 1855; d. Dec. 26, 1855.
74 ii. *Ella Augusta*, b. Sept. 1, 1856.
75 iii. *Leonard Austin*, b. June 16, 1858.
76 iv. *Samuel Nelson*, b. April 23, 1860.
77 v. *Fannie R.*, b. March 18, 1862.
78 vi. *Alfred Washburn*, b. Oct. 31, 1864.
79 vii. *Gertrude J.*, b. April 30, 1866.
80 viii. *Myra Abigail*, b. Nov. 20, 1868.
81 ix. *Florence Ballou*, b. Jan. 21, 1871.

(38) Samuel V. Whitney md. Jan. 31, 1843, Sarah Ann Russell, dau. of Walter Russell, *q. v.* He was postmaster 1853–6 and was engaged in several business enterprises. For several years he was prominent in the morocco business. He d. July 3, 1856; his widow d. April 9, 1875.

82 i. *Russell*, b. Nov. 13, 1844; resides in Gardner; md. June 11, 1867, Maria Metcalf, dau. of Joel Metcalf, *q. v.*
83 ii. *Willis*, b. Nov. 22, 1848; d. Aug. 22, 1849.
84 iii. *Eleanor*, b. Sept. 28, 1851; d. July 29, 1852.
85 iv. *Luella* (twin), b. Sept. 28, 1851; d. unmd. Jan. 26, 1877.

(39) Rev. Quincy Whitney resides in Cambridge. He md. Mandana M. Whittemore, dau. of Rev. Benjamin Whittemore. He is a Universalist clergyman.

86 i. *Elmina M.*, b. ——.
87 ii. *Annie B.*, b. ——; md. Gerard Churchill; reside at Loyal, Kansas.

(49) Jason Whitney, son of Ohio, was a farmer in this town. He lived several years near Factory Village and later in Westminster. He md. May 4, 1836, Elizabeth L. Samson, dau. of Jonathan Samson, *q. v.*; she d. Sept. 5,

1841; md. (2d) Aug. 16, 1842, Susan E. Barrett, b. May 2, 1816; d. April 1, 1857; md. (3d) Nov. 14, 1859, Esther Ball, b. Sept. 20, 1821; d. Dec. 7, 1877. He d. May 16, 1880.

88 i. *Sarah B.*, b. July 29, 1837; md. May 18, 1858, Henry E. Thomas. He enlisted in 21st Regiment and was killed in battle of Cold Harbor. June 2, 1864; she d. Aug. 2, 1858.

89 ii. *Emma E.*, b. Jan. 17, 1839; md. July 3, 1861, George A. Stone of Fitzwilliam, N. H.

90 iii. *Charles W.*, b. Dec. 7, 1840.+

91 iv. *Maria S.*, b. April 20, 1843; md. Henry L. Smith of Westminster.

92 v. *Franklin*, b. April 20, 1845; d. March 15, 1849.

93 vi. *Mary C.*, b. Nov. 5, 1847; d. Oct. 1, 1848.

94 vii. *Jason W.*, b. June 18, 1849; d. Sept. 11, 1849.

95 viii. *Abbie E.*, b. 1851; d. ——.

96 ix. *Ferdinand A.*, b. Aug. 29, 1854; md. 1876, Elmira S. Gleason; resides in Fitchburg.

(50) Hon. Ohio Whitney, son of Ohio, was a useful and prominent citizen of Ashburnham. *Vide* page 486. He md. April 11, 1839, Mary R. Brooks, dau. of Elijah Brooks, *q. v.* He d. Feb. 6, 1879.

97 i. *Ellen Rebecca*, b. Jan. 6, 1840; d. Oct. 10, 1865.

98 ii. *Josie M.*, b. Aug. 23, 1843; md. Capt. Walter O. Parker, *q. v.*

99 iii. *Georgie S.*, b. Aug. 26, 1845; md. Moses P. Greenwood, *q. v.*

100 iv. *Lydia A.*, b. Aug. 3, 1846.

101 v. *Clinton O.*, b. Aug. 9, 1850; md. Sept. 12, 1873, Lillian E. Connant. He is a commercial agent residing in Boston.

102 vi. *Walton B.*, b. Aug. 28, 1859; md. Jan. 14, 1886, Sadie B. Sherburne, dau. of Warren and Abbie (Ames) Sherburne. He is a job and ornamental printer in Ashburnham, and in 1887 was elected town clerk.

(52) Amos Whitney, son of Ohio, md. May 7, 1840, Harriet J. Bemis, b. Aug. 20, 1819, dau. of Jonas and Mercy (Burgess) Bemis, *q. v.* He d. April 20, 1868. He was foreman in the chair factory several years and also a farmer. His widow resides on the homestead.

103 i. *Edwin A.*, b. May 29, 1842; md. May 3, 1871, Kate R. Cummings; resides in Newton.

104 II. *Waldo F.*, b. April 22, 1844; is a dentist in Boston. He md. Jan. 2, 1870, Abbie Hale.
105 III. *Albert E.*, b. Jan. 20, 1847; md. 1872, Mary E. Lowe of Fitchburg. He resides in Newton.
106 IV. *Clara T.*, b. Jan. 22, 1850; md. Jan. 6, 1886, Nathaniel Sarsfield. They live on the homestead.
107 V. *Wilmot A.*, b. Jan. 30, 1852; d. young.

(55) FRANCIS A. WHITNEY has been a successful and progressive farmer in this town. He has been prominently connected with the Farmers' and Mechanics' Club and has fully participated in the aims and work of the organization. He has taught with unfailing success many terms of school and has been a member of the committee of supervision many years. In these capacities he has served the community and the town a longer period than has fallen to the lot of any man in the town's history. He has been an assessor and selectman and is a trustee of Cushing Academy. In all public affairs he has studiously canvassed the problems of his time and continues to occupy an advanced position among his townsmen. He md. Jan. 6, 1852, Lucy M. Lane, dau. of Elias Lane, *q. v.* She d. Aug. 16, 1861; he md. (2d) Sept. 9, 1862, Sarah I. Watkins, adopted dau. of Jehiel Watkins, *q. v.*

108 I. *Earl Ingraham*, b. July 25, 1865.
109 II. *Walter Henry*, b. June 30, 1868; d. Aug. 17, 1869.
110 III. *Henry Ingraham*, b. Nov. 7, 1872; d. June 17, 1881.
111 IV. *Winthrop*, b. June 17, 1874.

(56) WALTER WHITNEY, son of Ohio, removed to Fitchburg where he d. July 23, 1867. He was respected for his candor and honesty and loved for amiable traits of character and unfailing kindness. He md. May 1, 1853, Elvira Dunn, b. Dec. 16, 1827; she resides in Dedham.

112 I. *Walton*, b. July 19, 1854; d. July 21, 1854.
113 II. *Frank Walter*, b. June 13, 1856. He is principal of Chicopee High School. He md. Dec. 25, 1882, Georgia Augusta Taylor.
114 III. *Mary Elvira*, b. May 15, 1859; d. March 31, 1861.
115 IV. *Jessie D.*, b. May 19, 1862; a teacher in the public schools of this town.
116 V. *Fred Ernest*, b. Jan. 18, 1865.

(90) CHARLES W. WHITNEY, eldest son of Jason Whitney, md. Aug. 13, 1865, Ruana Barrell, dau. of Nahum Barrell, *q. v.* He is a farmer on the farm formerly of William Barrell, which was severed from Westminster and annexed to this town many years ago. He has been one of the road commissioners several years.

117 I. *William C.*, b. May 27, 1866.
118 II. *Martha E.*, b. April 23, 1869.
119 III. *George F.*, b. Sept. 20, 1872; d. Sept. 11, 1874.
120 IV. *Sarah R.*, b. Sept. 17, 1875.
121 V. *Abbie A.*, b. Nov. 13, 1879.

122 JOHN WHITNEY, son of Joseph G. and Levina (Dunn) Whitney, was b. in Westminster Sept. 12, 1806. He md. May 9, 1832, Eliza Cushing, dau. of Stephen Cushing, *q. v.* He resided some years in Westminster and subsequently in this town, where he was a pioneer manufacturer of chairs. In his daily life and in business he ignored contention and enjoyed the rewards of peace and an honorable conduct. He d. May 4, 1873; his widow d. Sept. 1, 1882.

123 I. *Stephen C.*, b. July 4, 1833; md. April 14, 1861, Achsah I. May, dau. of Sumner May, *q. v.* Enlisted in 53d Regiment and d. in the service at New Orleans, Feb. 20, 1863.
124 II. *Eliza Cushing*, b. July 25, 1835; d. July 13, 1837.
125 III. *Joseph*, b. June 15, 1838; d. Nov. 26, 1838.
126 IV. *Wilbur Fisk*, b. Dec. 9, 1839.+
127 V. *John Edwin*, b. Oct. 28, 1841; d. Nov. 21, 1856.
128 VI. *Timothy Merritt*, b. Dec. 2, 1844; d. Nov. 22, 1856.
129 VII. *George Edward*, b. April 20, 1847; d. unmd. Oct. 30, 1880.
130 VIII. *Orange*, b. March 16, 1849; md. Jan. 5, 1875, Laura M. Collester; she d. Jan. 28, 1885. He is successfully engaged in the manufacture of chairs at South Village. He was a member of the board of selectmen 1880. Since 1881 he has resided in Winchendon.
131 IX. *Sarah Ann*, b. Oct. 4, 1850; md. Feb. 20, 1878, George H. Clapp; they reside in Greenfield.
132 X. *Arthur Melville*, b. Oct. 4, 1853; unmd.; resides at Grand Rapids, Mich.
133 XI. *Alfred Herbert*, b. June 14, 1856; md. June 3, 1884, Susie W. Davis, dau. of Phineas P. and

Sarah (Rice) Davis. He is of the firm of Orange Whitney & Co., manufacturers of chairs at South Village.

(126) WILBUR F. WHITNEY for more than twenty years has been actively engaged in the manufacture of chairs and has become an important factor in the business interests of this town. An illustration of his factories and an account of his business appear in Chap. XVII. In the personal supervision of an important industry Mr. Whitney has found full employment, yet he has been an efficient member of the school committee many years and has labored in this work with unfailing interest. He is a director of the Ashburnham National Bank and of the Nashua Reservoir Company. In 1875 he represented this district in the Legislature. In 1878 he was nominated for Congress by the Greenback party and by a convention of Independents. In the canvass he received seven thousand votes He was renominated in 1882 and 1884. In 1876 and 1877 he was nominated for State Treasurer and in several instances his candidacy was endorsed by the Prohibitionists. With the experience of years Mr. Whitney has joined the fruits of an attentive study of the social and political problems of the times. His conclusions are intelligently formed and his judgment of men and measures is free from partiality and prejudice. In municipal affairs he has manifested a commendable interest and at all times has maintained an advanced position among his fellow-men. In his daily life he has seldom wounded or disappointed his friends and has cultivated no enmities. He md. July 17, 1866, Emeline S. Jewell, b. Dec. 27, 1839, dau. of Dexter and Sarah (Mower) Jewell of Rindge.

134 i. *Oscar Jewell*, b. Jan. 22, 1871; d. Jan. 2, 1886. In this brief life was developed a maturity of mind and character that commanded the respect and summoned the love of all who knew him. If young in years he was manly and noble in habit, his emotions were the offspring of a reflective mind, and in thought and deed his kindness to his friends and associates, his purity of life and his obedience to duty were unfailing.

135 ii. *Celena Mower*, b. June 24, 1873.

136 iii. *Luella Cushing*, b. May, 4, 1875.

137 iv. *Ethel Eloise*, b. June 2, 1881.

138 v. *Edith Lillian*, b. Jan. 1, 1883.





W. F. Whitney.

139 CAPT. LEMUEL WHITNEY, son of Gen. Josiah and Sarah (Dwelly) Whitney, was b. in Harvard Sept. 19, 1784. He was about eleven years of age when his father removed from Harvard to Ashby. He md. Dec. 4, 1804, Elizabeth Hall, dau. of Henry Hall, Jr., *q. v.*, and settled on the Hall farm in the northeast part of this town. He was a captain of the militia and an officer six years. He d. July 9, 1853; his wife d. April 30, 1852.

140 I. *Henry H.*, b. June 11, 1805; md. Sept. 26, 1830, Caroline F. Bailey, dau. of John Bailey of Lunenburg. He resides at East Jaffrey, N. H. Six children.

141 II. *Dwell*, b. Sept. 10, 1807.+

142 III. *Otis*, b. Nov. 14, 1809; md. May 3, 1840, Hannah Parker. He was a farmer on the homestead and subsequently in New Ipswich, where he d. about 1884.

143 IV. *Betsey*, b. March 18, 1812; md. Josiah Derby, *q. v.*

144 V. *Lemuel*, b. Aug. 9, 1818.+

145 VI. *Nancy*, b. June 23, 1822.

(141) DWELL WHITNEY, son of Capt. Lemuel, md. June 5, 1829, Emily Derby, dau. of Nathan Derby, *q. v.*; she d. ——; md. (2d) 1874, Rebecca (Gilson) Crouch, widow of Joel Crouch. He resided a farmer many years on the farm now of Walter Lawrence. He d. at Ashburnham Centre March 29, 1879.

146 I. *Mary Ann*, b. July 13, 1831; md. John R. Hill.

147 II. *George O.*, b. March 10, 1833; served in the Civil War in Fourth Heavy Artillery; md. 1858, Caroline Emma Willard, dau. of George A. Willard, *q. v.* He d. in Winchendon.

148 III. *Sarah D.*, b. Sept. 8, 183–; md. April 20, 1858, Thomas W. Whitcomb, son of Silas and Louisa (Lincoln) Whitcomb of Marlboro', N. H. They reside in Ashby.

149 IV. *Edwin*, b. June 6, 1836; md. 1860, Eliza J. Cross, b. 1842; d. in Ashby Sept. 27, 1867; md. (2d) June 16, 1868, Elizabeth E. Wheeler, dau. of Oliver Wheeler of Ashby. He resides in Ashby and has been a merchant in Ashby Centre.

150 V. *Lewis*, b. July 9, 1838; md. M. Jane Lawrence, dau. of Leonard Lawrence, *q. v.* He is a farmer in this town.

151 VI. *Lemuel*, b. Oct. 30, 1840; md. March 19, 1868, Sarah Isabel Ward, dau. of William Ward, *q. v.* They resided in Ashby several years; now live in Providence, R. I. He served two years in 21st Regiment.

152 VII. *Emeline A.*, b. Oct. 28, 1843; md. Walter Lawrence, son of Leonard Lawrence, *q. v.*

153 VIII. *Augustus G.*, b. Sept. 26, 1845; md. May 12, 1869, Martha S. Robbins. He is proprietor of the Ashburnham and Fitchburg coaches.

154 IX. *F. Etta*, b. Sept. 30, 1849.

(144) LEMUEL WHITNEY, son of Capt. Lemuel, md. Almira G. Pollard, dau. of William Pollard, *q. v.* He has resided in Ashburnham and in Rindge and is now living in Athol.

155 I. *Adeline E.*, b. March 17, 1843; md. Jan. 7, 1867, Pliny F. Woodbury.

156 II. *Laura M.*, b. Jan. 10, 1845; md. June 4, 1871, Henry H. Howard.

157 III. *Abbie M.*, b. Aug. 30, 1847; d. Nov. 29, 1861.

158 IV. *Aurilla M.*, b. Jan. 6, 1849.

159 V. *Albert L.*, b. Jan. 22, 1851; md. Dec. 9, 1875, Lucy M. Wyatt.

160 VI. *Frank W.*, b. Nov. 3, 1852; md. Dec. 31, 1875, Mary Emma Bass.

161 VII. *Susan E.*, b. Dec. 5, 1854.

162 VIII. *Myron H.*, b. Sept. 4, 1857; d. April 22, 1886.

163 IX. *Nelson C.*, b. Aug. 30, 1859.

164 X. *Ivers E.*, b. Jan. 16, 1863; md. Nov. 23, 1884, Martha E. Gardner.

165 LEVI WHITNEY, lineage not traced. was b. in Harvard June 23, 1751. He md. Sept. 17, 1772, Sarah Lawrence, dau. of Benjamin and Jane (Russell) Lawrence and a sister of Amos Lawrence, *q. v.* He was a roving planet. After a brief residence in Concord he removed to Westminster in 1775, and to this town the following year. Soon after 1780 he removed to Rindge and there he did not remain to gather moss, but in 1785 he removed to Marlboro', N. H., where death overtook him the following year. His wife d. in Rindge Oct. 19, 1783, and he md. (2d) Dec. 25, 1783, Hepsibeth Fay, b. in Westboro' Oct. 1, 1759.

166 I. *Sarah*, b. June 12, 1774.

167 II. *Lydia*, b. May 20, 1776.

168 III. *Levi*, b. May 12, 1778; d. Dec. 1, 1780.
169 IV. *John*, b. Aug. 26, 1780.
170 V. *Betsey*, b. April 5, 1783.
171 VI. *Levi*, b. Sept. 28, 1784.
172 VII. *Amos*.

173 EPHRAIM WHITNEY, parentage not known, and wife Sarah removed to the northeast part of this town about 1780. He d. Nov. 17, 1784, and his widow remained on the homestead. In 1792 the farm, with other lands, was annexed to Ashby. Three children were b. in this town.

174 I. *Infant*, b. ——; d. April 13, 1781.
175 II. *Rachel*, b. April 10, 1783.
176 III. *Dolly*, b. Jan. 10, 1785.

177 ISAAC WHITNEY and wife Susannah removed to the northeast part of this town 1786. In 1792 his farm was included in the addition to Ashby and he continued a resident of that town.

178 I. *Isaac*, b. Jan. 18, 1787; md. 1809, Sally Broughton, probably a dau. of Wait Broughton.
179 II. *David*, b. March 14, 1789.
180 III. *Susannah*, b. March 14, 1791.
181 IV. *Betsey*, b. Oct. 30, 1792.
182 V. *Polly*, b. Feb. 3, 1796.
183 VI. *Nabby*, b. March 12, 1798.
184 VII. *Samuel*, b. July 2, 1807.
185 VIII. *Zimri* (twin), b. July 2, 1807; md. 1834, Nancy Lawrence, dau. of Alethon Lawrence, *q. v.*, and resided in Ashby.

186 CHESTER F. WHITNEY, b. in Clarendon, Vt., Feb. 11, 1820, son of Noah and Mercy (French) Whitney, md. Sept. 10, 1848, Persis B. Herrick, b. Jan. 26. 1823, dau. of Zimri and Mary (Brigham) Herrick of Chesterfield, N. H. At the time of their marriage they removed to Ashburnham, where he d. May 31, 1882.

187 I. *Frederick C.*, b. May 6, 1864; resides at Troy, N. Y. He md. July 27, 1883, Minnie R. Scoville of Cambridge, N. Y.

1 JOHN WILCOTT resided on the farm now occupied by Joseph Cook, near the line of Rindge, from about 1815 until his death in May, 1841. His widow d. Aug. 19, 1844.

2 i. *William*, b. ——; md. 1826, Lucy Fairbanks of Fitzwilliam, N. H. Removed to Illinois.
3 ii. *Nathaniel*, b. ——; d. unmd in this town, June 17, 1871, aged 67.
4 iii. *Matilda*, b. ——; md. Jan. 7, 1817, Rev. Calvin Cummings, *q. v.*
5 iv. *Sarah*, b. ——; md. 1816, Elijah T. Smith of Fitzwilliam, N. H.

WILDER.

No name is more frequently met and none was more potential in the early annals of Ashburnham than that of Wilder. Yet no descendant of the early families bearing the name of Wilder has resided in this town for many years. The later families of Wilder in this town are descendants of other branches of the general family. Judge Joseph Wilder of Lancaster, b. July 5, 1683, was a son of Thomas Wilder and a grandson of Thomas Wilder who was of Charlestown 1640 and who became one of the early settlers of Lancaster. Judge Wilder was of the committee to locate and lay out the township and he became one of the original proprietors. Caleb and Joseph Wilder, sons of Judge Joseph, maintained an active interest in the settlement and are frequently mentioned in the early chapters. Both were large land owners and two sons of Caleb Wilder became residents of this town.

1 Samuel Wilder, son of Col. Caleb and Abigail (Carter) Wilder, was b. in Lancaster, May 7, 1739. He came hither previous to the date of incorporation, and with the exception of a few months in 1765, he remained a valued citizen of Ashburnham until his death. *Vide* page 477. He md. Feb. 15, 1768, Dorothy Carter of Lancaster, who d. July 28, 1790. The funeral discourse by Rev. Dr. Cushing was printed. He md. (2d) March 9, 1791, Abigail (Carter) Fairbanks, a sister of the former wife. He d. suddenly May 9, 1798; his widow d.

2 i. *Samuel*, b. Oct. 18, 1769.
3 ii. *Caleb*, b. Aug. 26, 1771; d. Aug. 30, 1771.
4 iii. *Caleb*, b. March 22, 1773.+
5 iv. *Nahum*, b. March 1, 1775.+
6 v. *Dorothy*, b, March 14, 1777; md. Joseph Stone, *q. v.*
7 vi. *Beulah*, b. April 6, 1779; d. unmd. in Boston May 13, 1847.
8 vii. *Ephraim*, b. Jan. 26, 1781; d. Jan. 30, 1781.
9 viii. *Ephraim*, b. June 7, 1782.
10 ix. *Sarah*, b. June 11, 1784.
11 x. *Abel*, b. June 24, 1786. A physician in Blackstone. *Vide* page 510. He md. 1816, Fanny Richardson of Winchendon, who d. Feb. 23, 1876, aged 90. He d. 1866. Ten children who have been distinguished in various callings.

12 xi. *Thomas*, b. July 7, 1788.+
13 xii. *Milton*, b. June 30, 1790.

(4) Capt. Caleb Wilder was a school teacher of merited fame. He was also a farmer and found frequent employment as a land surveyor. He was a captain of the Ashburnham Light Infantry and was often chosen to office in town affairs. He md. Nov. 27, 1800, Sarah Whitney, dau. of Silas Whitney, *q. v.* She d., *felo de se*, June 14, 1820; he d. Jan. 29, 1834.

14 i. *Samuel*, b. Dec. 30, 1801; d. June 11, 1817. This was a suicide at an unusual age.
15 ii. *Sarah*, b. May 7, 1803; md. May 4, 1826, Silas Smith of Westminster; removed to Farmington, Iowa.
16 iii. *Nancy*, b. Nov. 19, 1806; md. April 24, 1828, David Laws of Westminster.
17 iv. *Silas Whitney*, b. Dec. 13, 1808; d. Oct. 31, 1812.
18 v. *Caleb*, b. Oct. 28, 1810; *non comp.*; d. in this town.
19 vi. *Silas Whitney*, b. July 26, 1814; he was a printer and publisher; subsequently he was of the firm of Snow and Wilder, publishers of the popular railway guide, called The Pathfinder. He md. Caroline Bishop of Medfield and d. in Toledo, Ohio, Nov. 14, 1854.
20 vii. *Abel Thomas*, b. Oct. 19, 1816; d. unmd. March 14, 1839.
21 viii. *Dorothy Carter*, b. June 16, 1819; md. Samuel Twombly; resides in Iowa.

(5) Nahum Wilder md. Oct. 15, 1800, Hannah Woods, dau. of Samuel Woods of Princeton, *q. v.* He was a farmer in Princeton. She d. Aug. 19, 1828.

22 i. *Milton*, b. Nov. 15, 1801.
23 ii. *Mary Woods*, b. May 13, 1803.
24 iii. *Caroline*, b. Nov. 26, 1805.
25 iv. *Lucy B.*, b. July 17, 1809.
26 v. *Samuel Woods*, b. March 12, 1812.
27 vi. *Harriet Atwood*, b. Nov. 8, 1815.
28 vii. *Alden Augustus*, b. July 23, 1817.
29 viii. *Solon Franklin*, b. Aug. 11, 1819.
30 ix. *Sarah Fuller*, b. Dec. 24, 1821.

(12) THOMAS WILDER md. Mary Woods, dau. of Samuel Woods, *q. v.* He lived in Princeton a few years and removed to Ware. He was a representative in the Legislature from Ware. He d. suddenly at a meeting of the American Board of Commissioners of Foreign Missions, May 31, 1867.

31 I. *Thomas Scott*, b. Jan. 31, 1813.
32 II. *Mary Woods*, b. May 17, 1816; d. Feb. 23, 1826.
33 III. *Abbie Whitney*, b. ——; md. Charles E. Ryan.
34 IV. *Rebecca Kimball*, b. ——.

35 CALEB WILDER, brother of Samuel, was b. in Lancaster July 1, 1741. He md. Elizabeth Woodward and probably did not remove from Lancaster to Ashburnham until about 1780. He was a farmer. His wife d. June 6, 1799; he was drowned in Douglas March 25, 1816. The children may not be arranged in order of age.

36 I. *Deborah*, b. 1774; md. Capt. John Willard, *q. v.*
37 II. *Betsey*, b. 1778; d. unmd. Jan. 11, 1854.
38 III. *Joseph*, b. ——. He was md. and resided in Waterville, Vt., where he d. about 1823. Elmira M. Wilder, wife of Charles W. Whitney, is a dau. of Joseph Wilder.
39 IV. *Abigail*, b. Jan. 3, 1783; md. Samuel Whitney, *q. v.*
40 V. *Nancy*, b. Oct. 23, 1786; md. Josiah Lane, *q. v.*
41 VI. *Rebecca*, bap. Sept. 28, 1788.
42 VII. *Caleb*, bap. May 10, 1789; resided in Fitchburg, where he d. about 1840.
43 VIII. *Charles Woodward*, b. Dec. 30, 1790.+

(43) DR. CHARLES W. WILDER was a physician in Templeton and subsequently successful in business and an honored citizen of Leominster. *Vide* page 511. He md. 1820, Myra Lawrence who d. 1843; md. (2d) 1844, Laura S. (Wilder) Kendall, b. Feb. 13, 1816, dau. of Elisha and Mehitabel (Dresser) Wilder. He d. Feb. 12, 1851. His widow md. Hon. Charles H. Merriam.

44 I. *Elizabeth*, b. 1822; md. Dr. William D. Peck of Sterling; she d. 1858.
45 II. *Abigail*, b. 1824; d. 1843.
46 III. *Charles W.*, b. 1827; md. Emma C. Wood. He d. ——.
47 IV. *Rufus L.*, b. Aug. 31, 1843; Harvard College; M. D.

48 v. *Joseph W.*, b. Aug. 21, 1847; Harvard College; a lawyer in Leominster.

49 JOSEPH WILDER, son of Joseph, Jr., and Deborah Joslin Wilder and a first cousin of Samuel and Caleb Wilder, was b. in Leominster April 15, 1734. The "Book of Wilders" names his wife, Susanna Phelps. Perhaps he was twice md. for when he removed to this town in 1776, the name of his wife was Elizabeth. The family, according to the custom, was warned out, and ten children were named as follows: Willis, Elizabeth, Relief, Dolly, Peter, Esther, Rebecca, Lucy, Nathan and Molly. The father was styled Capt. Joseph Wilder. The family did not remain in town many years.

50 JOHN WILDER, brother of Capt. Joseph, was b. in Leominster 1750. He d. in this town of small-pox Sept. 8, 1776. It is said he had recently returned from the army. I find no record of his marriage.

51 JOSIAH WILDER, son of Josiah and Miriam Wilder, was b. in Lancaster, now West Boylston, 1750. He belonged to the same general family but was far removed in kinship from the foregoing families. He was a descendant of John and they of Thomas, sons of Thomas, the first of the name in Lancaster. Josiah Wilder removed to this town probably in 1776. He was chosen to office in 1777 and succeeding years while he remained a citizen of this town. He md. Hezediah Larkin who d. July 4, 1782; he md. (2d) Feb. 4, 1784, Joanna Baker. At the incorporation of Gardner his farm was included in that town where he d. 1826; she d. 1842.

52 I. *Azubah*, b. March 23, 1777; md. Uriah Clapp; d. 1852.
53 II. *Katie*, b. July 19, 1779; md. Abel Burpee.
54 III. *Hezediah*, b. Nov. 2, 1784.
55 IV. *Josiah*, b. March 5, 1786; md. Mary Wheeler; removed to Fitzwilliam, N. H.
56 V. *David*, b. Nov. 10, 1787; d. by accident 1818.
57 VI. *Isaac*, b. Nov. 23, 1789.
58 VII. *Joanna*, b. March 30, 1792; md. Persis Jones.

59 JONATHAN PRESCOTT WILDER was b. in Ashby Feb. 19, 1805. He is a son of Asa and Rebecca (Emerson) Wilder and a grandson of Rufus and Vashti (Prescott)

Wilder of Ashby. Rufus Wilder of Ashby was a brother of Josiah Wilder of Ashburnham and Gardner.

Jonathan Prescott Wilder has resided in this town about fifty years. He is a cabinet maker and lives in Central Village. He md. Feb. 12, 1829, Betsey Townsend of Westminster, who d. June 2, 1871; md. (2d) March 22, 1874, Lucy (Kinsman) Hinds, widow of Francis Hinds, *q. v.*

1 JACOB WILKER, b. in Germany 1731, emigrated to Boston in early life and there resided several years. He md. in Boston Anna Barbary Roberts, and with three children removed to this town in May, 1775. He settled in the east part of the town on land still owned and occupied by his descendants. He was a peaceable citizen and a good farmer. His full name was Jacob John George Wilker, but he is known in the records as Jacob Wilker. He d. Nov. 3, 1816, aged 85 years; his wife d. April 16, 1803, aged 70 years.

2 I. *Elizabeth*, b. Aug. 7, 1758; md. Dec. 25, 1786, Benjamin Wallis, b. in Lunenburg April 15, 1756, son of Benoni and Rebecca (Brown) Wallis and a brother of David Wallis of Ashburnham. He was a farmer in Ashby where he d. May 11, 1826; she d. Sept. 5, 1800.

3 1. Betsey, b. May 17, 1788; d. unmd. July 23, 1820.

4 2. Susan, b. Feb. 26, 1791; md. Asa Woods, *q. v.*

5 3. Rebecca, b. March 19, 1793; md. Asa Woods, *q. v.*

6 4. Benjamin, b. Aug. 17, 1795; md. July 22, 1829, Rebecca Foster, b. June 29, 1808, dau. of John, Jr., and Dorcas (Upton) Foster of Ashby. He d. in Ashby July 23, 1876. Their children were: S. Augusta, wife of Hon. Amasa Norcross, and Benjamin F. now of Fitchburg.

7 5. Nancy, b. Jan. 27, 1798; d. unmd. Oct. 13, 1830.

8 6. Levi, b. July 28, 1800; d. Sept. 5, 1816.

9 II. *George*, b. May 14, 1761.+

10 III. *Susan*, b. ——; md. Feb. 15, 1794, William Tuttle. They removed to Alstead, N. H.

11 IV. *Catherine*, b. Oct. 8, 1775; md. Thomas Bennett, *q. v.*

(9) GEORGE WILKER was a farmer on the homestead. He was a man of ability and a substantial citizen. In 1827 he was one of the thirteen who petitioned the Legislature to be annexed with their estates to Ashby. The measure failed and his friendly relations with his townsmen were disturbed by the result of the issue. He md. July 31, 1787, Martha White of Lancaster. He d. March 9, 1841.

12 I. *Joseph*, b. April 19, 1788; d. same day.
13 II. *James* (twin), b. April 19, 1788; d. May 6, 1788.
14 III. *Martha*, b. June 17, 1789; md. Dec. 29, 1842, Thomas Gibson of Ashby; she d. May 31, 1846.
15 IV. *George*, b. Nov. 2, 1790; d. Dec. 31, 1791.
16 V. *George*, b. Dec. 20, 1791.+
17 VI. *Anna*, b. Feb. 17, 1793; md. Aug., 1834, Asa Stratton, b. July 25, 1778, son of Ebenezer and Tabitha (Davis) Stratton of Rindge. It was his second marriage; she d. Oct. 26, 1840.
18 VII. *Abigail*, b. May 14, 1794; md. Nathan Handley, *q. v.*
19 VIII. *Susan*, b. Jan. 2, 1796; d. Sept. 29, 1799.
20 IX. *John*, b. May 6, 1797; d. Sept. 24, 1799.
21 X. *Jacob*, b. Dec. 9, 1798.+
22 XI. *Sally*, b. May 9, 1800; d. Aug. 29, 1822.
23 XII. *Susan*, b. April 23, 1802; md. Charles F. Crosby, *q. v.*
24 XIII. *John*, b. April 23, 1805.+

(16) GEORGE WILKER, JR., md. July 12, 1814, Eunice Marble, dau. of Jabez Marble, *q. v.* He resided on the homestead, where he d. March 27, 1817. The sermon by Mr. Cushing on the occasion was printed. His widow md. (2d) 1819, Josiah Caswell of Fitchburg.

25 I. *Mary*, b. Nov. 24, 1815; d. Aug. 6, 1822.
26 II. *George*, b. April 7, 1817; d. Aug. 29, 1822.

(21) JACOB WILKER, son of George, md. Oct. 4, 1823, Emma Richardson of Ashby, dau. of Abel Richardson. He was a farmer on the homestead. He d. Nov. 17, 1862.

27 I. *Joseph W.*, b. June 14, 1824; md. Jan. 1, 1852, E. Augusta Willard, dau. of George A. Willard, *q. v.* He resides on the homestead. His children are of the fifth generation of his family in this town.

28 1. Alice S., b. Sept. 25, 1852; md. Sept. 19, 1875, Hosea A. Hartwell of Ashby, son of Charles Hartwell.
29 2. Mirie A., b. Oct. 11, 1858; d. April 30, 1872.
30 3. George B., b. May 4, 1862.
31 4. Abbie M., b. May 1, 1866.

32 II. *Emma J.*, b. July 22, 1827; md. Newell Marble, *q. v.*
33 III. *Mary L.*, b. May 1, 1832; md. Warren Marble, *q. v.*
34 IV. *Elmira R.*, b. March 1, 1837; md. John Billings, *q. v.*
35 V. *Elvira R.* (twin), b. March 1, 1837; md. Dec. 16, 1858, John H. Jenkins of Barnstead, N. H.

(24) JOHN WILKER, son of George, md. Oct. 30, 1834, Phebe Fairbanks, b. in Gardner Dec. 1, 1809, dau. of Levi Fairbanks, Jr., and a great-granddau. of Stephen Randall of Ashburnham. He was a farmer. He d. Aug. 3, 1880.

36 I. *Sally*, b. Oct. 9, 1835; md. Jacob P. Gates, son of Everett Gates, *q. v.*

1 JOHN H. WILKINS, son of Jason and Lydia C. (Seward) Wilkins, was b. in Salem Oct. 14, 1832. He resided several years in his native city and was a member of the common council. In 1862 he removed to this town and is employed as overseer and shipper by the Boston Chair Manufacturing Co. He is efficient in public affairs, and the rewards of good citizenship have been freely tendered by his townsmen. For several years he has been chief engineer of the fire department, and during the past eleven years he has presided at the annual March meeting. He is a member of the present Legislature (1887). Mr. Wilkins md. at Salem Aug. 2, 1856, Lucy A. Luscomb, b. in Salem Aug. 20, 1836, dau. of Joseph W. and Lucy A. Luscomb; she d. July 4, 1861. He md. (2d) Oct. 10, 1865, Mira E. Barrett, dau. of Col. Francis J. Barrett, *q. v.*

2 I. *Nellie A.*, b. March 2, 1858; d. April 19, 1864.
3 II. *Clara L.*, b. Oct. 25, 1859; a teacher in this town.

WILLARD.

MAJOR SIMON WILLARD, whose descendants have been and still are numerous in this town, was from the county of Kent, England. He settled

in Cambridge 1634, and the following year he removed to Concord. His career was honorable and eventful, and during his long life no one was more prominently connected with the affairs of the town of Concord and of the colony. He was a representative and assistant nearly forty years, and was a leader in military affairs. He md. Mary Sharpe, dau. of Henry Sharpe; md. (2d) Elizabeth Dunster; md. (3d) Mary Dunster. He d. April 24, 1676, aged about 68. *Vide* Willard Memoir for an account of the life and service of this distinguished man.

Henry Willard, fourth of the fourteen children of Major Simon Willard, was b. in Concord June 4, 1655. He md. July 18, 1674, Mary Lakin, and settled in Groton. Subsequently he removed to Lancaster. His wife d. about 1688; he md. (2d) Dorcas Cutler. He d. in Lancaster Aug. 27, 1726. There were five children of the first and three of the second marriage

Henry Willard, son of Henry and Mary (Lakin) Willard, b. at Groton April 11, 1675, md. July 21, 1698, Abigail Temple; md. (2d) previous to 1710, Sarah Nutting. He resided in Lancaster, and by change in town lines in Harvard after 1732.

Henry Willard, son of Henry and Abigail (Temple) Willard, b. about 1700, md. May 24, 1726, Abigail Fairbanks of Lancaster. After 1732 they resided in Harvard, where ten or eleven children were born. He d. Jan. 6, 1774. Among their children were sons Oliver, Timothy, Jacob and John, who were residents of Ashburnham and are named in the following register.

Lucy Willard, wife of Oliver Stone, was a dau. of Tarbell and Rachel (Haskell) Willard, granddau. of Joseph and Elizabeth (Tarbell) Willard and great-granddau. of Henry and Mary (Lakin) Willard.

1 HEZEKIAH WILLARD, son of Hezekiah Willard of Harvard, md. March 25, 1766, Azubah Wood of Stow. In 1768 he removed to this town but did not remain many years. The following fragment of a family record may be of service to any who have additional information.

2 I. *Lydia*, b. in Harvard March 6, 1767.
3 II. *Molly*, b. in Ashburnham Dec. 11, 1768.
4 III. *Infant*, b. ——; d. April 12, 1771.

5 PETER WILLARD, wife Mary and one child removed to this town from Lancaster in 1778. He went away previous to 1787.

6 I. *Betty*.
7 II. *Peter*, bap. June 20, 1776.
8 III. *Joel*, bap. Aug. 7, 1779; d. Jan. 9, 1781.

9 OLIVER WILLARD, son of Henry and Abigail (Fairbanks) Willard, was b. in Harvard Oct. 13, 1741. He md. May 29, 1764, Lucy Haskell, and came to Ashburnham 1765. His name is on the roll of Capt. Davis' company in 1775, and he was a selectman in 1776, 1778 and 1779. His name is frequently met in the records until 1783, when he removed to Vermont. It is said he had five sons and five daughters, and the names of seven children are found in the records.

10 i. *Oliver*, b. Oct. 24, 1765.
11 ii. *Peter*, b. Nov. 5, 1767.
12 iii. *Lucy*, bap. Dec. 3, 1769.
13 iv. *Levi*, bap. Jan. 27, 1773.
14 v. *Betty*, bap. May 21, 1775.
15 vi. *Simeon*, bap. June 29, 1777.
16 vii. *Molly*, bap. Sept. 5, 1779.

17 Timothy Willard, son of Henry and Abigail (Fairbanks) Willard, was b. in Harvard Aug. 8, 1748. He md. 1777, Elizabeth Farnsworth, and came to Ashburnham in 1781. He was an innholder on the David Russell farm and was an enterprising citizen. In 1795 or a year or two later, he removed to Vermont. It is not probable that the records preserve the names of all his children.

18 i. *Lucy*, b. Sept. 24, 1784.
19 ii. *Susan*, b. March 6, 1787.
20 iii. *Simeon*, b. March 24, 1789.
21 iv. *Polly Collins*, bap. Oct. 6, 1793.

22 Jacob Willard, son of Henry and Abigail (Fairbanks) Willard, was b. in Harvard July 20, 1734. He settled in this town soon after the removal hither of his brother, Dea. John Willard, and at once became a prominent citizen, maintaining a commanding influence until his death. In the preceding chapters relating to the events of his time and in the list of town officers his name frequently appears. *Vide* page 480. He md. Rhoda Randall. He d. Feb. 22, 1808; his widow d. Dec., 1832.

23 i. *Philander Jacob*, b. Sept. 29, 1772.+
24 ii. *Alexander Tarbell*, b. Nov. 4, 1774.+
25 iii. *Emma*, b. Dec. 18, 1777; md. 1808, Rev. Thomas Skelton, b. in Billerica Dec. 16, 1779, son of John and Joanna (Johnson) Skelton. He graduated at Harvard University 1806; ordained and installed over church in Foxboro' Nov. 2, 1808, where he was pastor until Feb. 25, 1815; installed at Enosburg, Vt., July 3, 1822, and dismissed March 25, 1825. He resided some years in this town, where he d. May 8, 1838; his widow d.; at the Home for Aged Women in Boston, Nov. 3, 1881, aged nearly 104 years. Five children.

26 1. Thomas Willard, b. Sept. 10, 1810; d. young.

27 2. Thomas Willard, b. June 7, 1815; d. young.
28 3. Daniel Hardy, b. June 18, 1818; completed study in medicine; d. April 20, 1841.
29 4. Charles W. H., b. Dec. 20, 1820; d. by accident Aug. 8, 1828.
30 5. Catherine Emma, b. Dec. 27, 1823; md. Oct. 12, 1834, David W. Jewett; he d. 1844; she md. (2d) Nov. 10, 1857, J. N. Page, who d. Aug. 9, 1859.

31 IV. *Catherine*, b. May 24, 1781; md. George R. Cushing, Esq., *q. v.*

(23) PHILANDER JACOB WILLARD resided in this town until about 1825, when he removed to Ashby. He was a captain of the Ashburnham Light Infantry and was engaged in this town and in Ashby in the manufacture of clocks. He md. 1796, Rhoda Wheeler, b. in Ashby, Oct. 18, 1773, dau. of Amos Wheeler. They were divorced and he md. (2d) 1807, Hannah P. Snow of Dublin, N. H. He d. in Ashby Dec. 26, 1840; his widow d. Dec. 26, 1853.

32 I. *Augustine Horace*, b. May 18, 1809.
33 II. *Julia*, b. ——; md. Rufus O. Severance. He d. in Ashby Aug 5, 1873; she d. June 24, 1874.
34 III. *Horatio*, b. Sept. 25, 1819; md. Sept. 9, 1846, Joanna Robinson of West Scituate. He resided at Hingham and in Boston. Four children. He d. Nov. 6, 1862.

(24) ALEXANDER TARBELL WILLARD removed to Ashby in 1801 and for many years was an enterprising and influential citizen. He was postmaster of Ashby 1812–36. He became widely known as a manufacturer of clocks and many specimens of his work are still in use. In this business for some years his brother was associated with him. He was a large owner in the North Turnpike. He md. 1800, Tila Oakes of Cohasset. He d. in Ashby Dec. 4, 1850.

35 I. *Caroline Cutler*, b. April 11, 1801; d. Dec. 22, 1822.
36 II. *George Augustus*, b. Feb. 28, 1803.+
37 III. *Catherine Cushing*, b. Oct. 15, 1805; unmd.; resides in Cohasset.

38 iv. *Laura Sophia*, b. Dec. 17, 1808; md. Isaac Lawrence of Ashby; d. in Lowell July 10, 1841.
39 v. *Emma Augusta*, b. Oct. 15, 1814; md. John M. Whitney; d. in Boston Nov. 24, 1881.
40 vi. *Alexander Tarbell*, b. Feb. 16, 1818; he is a dentist in Chelsea.
41 vii. *Lysander Bascom*, b. July 18, 1821, resides on the homestead in Ashby. He md. Charlotte Conant of Townsend.
42 viii. *Charles Henry*, b. May 26, 1823; resides in Cohasset; md. Maria Lawrence of Cohasset.

(36) George A. Willard is a farmer in Ashburnham living on the farm where his grandfather settled. He md. Oct. 28, 1828, Elvira Hunt, b. in Jaffrey, N. H., March 24, 1808, dau. of Nathan and Abigail (Hale) Hunt.

43 i. *Elvira Augusta*, b. Feb. 4, 1830; md. Joseph W. Wilker, *q. v.*
44 ii. *Maria Smith*, b. Sept. 1, 1831; d. April, 1843.
45 iii. *Catherine Cushing*, b. Nov. 1, 1833; md. Jan. 1, 1854, George F. Crosby, son of Charles Crosby, *q. v.*; reside in Fitchburg.
46 iv. *George A.*, b. Dec. 6, 1835; md. Dec. 16, 1858, Mary E. Martin, dau. of Ephraim Martin; resides in Rindge.
47 v. *Caroline Emma*, b. Sept. 2, 1837; md. 1858, George O. Whitney; md. (2d) George W. Milliken of Charlestown, N. H.
48 vi. *Mary Elizabeth*, b. July 9, 1840; md. Robert Braddocks; d. in Fitchburg July 27, 1869.
49 vii. *Abbie Jane*, b. May 24, 1843; md. Immo A. Morey; reside in Easthampton.
50 viii. *Ann Maria*, b. Jan. 13, 1845; md. July, 1863, Samuel E. Stone; she d. July 13, 1866.
51 ix. *Sarah Frances*, b. May 5, 1847; md. July, 1863, Noah G. Jackman; d. in Alstead, N. H., April 26, 1865.

52 Dea. John Willard, son of Henry and Abigail (Fairbanks) Willard, was b. in Harvard July 26, 1739. He md. 1765, Sarah Willard, b. Nov. 14, 1746. He was not md. in Harvard but the intentions are recorded there under date of Jan. 6, 1765. He removed to this town 1768 and settled on the farm subsequently owned by his son, Silas Willard, Esq. He was a prominent man in town affairs until failing health prevented a continued

service. In 1772 he was chosen a deacon and in 1788 he expressed a desire to be relieved from the duties of the office. The esteem of his brethren is reflected in their responsive vote, "That the church thank him for his past services and they wish him better health, and that he would officiate as often as his health will admit." After a lingering illness he d. of consumption July 3, 1793; his widow d. Nov. 18, 1834.

53 I. *John*, b. Oct. 26, 1766.+
54 II. *Silas*, b. Oct. 8, 1768.+
55 III. *Simon*, b. March 28, 1770.+
56 IV. *Sarah*, b. Dec. 8, 1771; md. Abraham Foster, *q. v.*
57 V. *Henry*, b. Dec. 25, 1773.+
58 VI. *Susannah*, b. Jan. 13, 1776; md. Asa Peirce, *q. v.*
59 VII. *Abigail*, b. April 17, 1780; md. Rev. Leonard Bennett, a Methodist clergyman.
60 VIII. *Elijah*, b. April 26, 1782; a Methodist clergyman; md. Thankful Gross; d. at Saugus Sept. 5, 1852. Ten children. *Vide* page 510.
61 IX. *Ezra*, b. Oct. 11, 1784; d. ummd. at ——, 1810.
62 X. *Jonas*, b. May 2, 1786.+

(53) JOHN WILLARD, son of Dea. John Willard, md. April 5, 1792, Deborah Wilder, dau. of Caleb Wilder, *q. v.* He was a farmer and on the farm now of Benjamin E. Wetherbee. He was a captain of the militia and a selectman several years. He d. March 23, 1850, aged 83 years; she d. Oct. 24, 1859, aged nearly 86 years.

63 I. *John*, b. Sept. 27, 1793.+
64 II. *Caleb*, b. March 9, 1796; d. in New Orleans unmd. Dec. 20, 1819.
65 III. *Deborah*, b. April 13, 1798; d. Oct. 15, 1805.
66 IV. *Emery*, b. Nov. 24, 1800; md. Irene Benjamin, dau. of Daniel Benjamin, *q. v.* Eleven children. They lived in Brighton.
67 V. *Nelson*, b. Feb. 15, 1803; md. Caroline Dwelley. Seven children. They removed to Leominster.
68 VI. *Elizabeth W.*, b. July 20, 1805; md. Josiah Locke, *q. v.*
69 VII. *Merrick*, b. Sept. 10, 1807.+
70 VIII. *Deborah*, b. Sept. 11, 1810; md. Levi Rice, *q. v.*
71 IX. *Susan*, b. Oct. 1, 1812; md. Oct. 30, 1834, Benjamin E. Lyndes; she d. Jan. 18, 1835.
72 X. *Abigail*, b. ——; d. March 9, 1837.
73 XI. *Infant*, b. ——; d. May 16, 1816.

(54) Silas Willard, Esq., son of Dea. John, resided on the homestead. *Vide* page 481. He was a captain of the Light Infantry and a member of the boards of selectmen and assessors twenty years, and in his influence in the direction of public affairs he has left the impress of character and ability. He md. July 18, 1793, Mary Jones, dau. of Enos Jones, *q. v.* She d. Feb. 11, 1837; he d. June 14, 1855.

74 I. *Mary*, b. Oct. 16, 1794; md. Humphrey Harris, *q. v.*

75 II. *Cynthia*, b. Feb. 1, 1796; md. Sept. 17, 1816, Jonathan Y. Gross, b. in Wellfleet Oct. 15, 1792, son of Thomas and Abigail (Young) Gross. They resided a few years in this town and subsequently in Duxbury. She d. April 3, 1870.

76 III. *Sylvia*, b. May 1, 1798; md. Jonathan Winchester, *q. v.*

77 IV. *Clarissa*, b. June 30, 1800; md. Col. Enoch Whitmore, *q. v.*

78 V. *Lucy*, b. July 4, 1802; md. Feb. 11, 1824, Ephraim Stearns, b. July 19, 1798, son of Samuel and Lydia (Clement) Stearns. They resided in Montague, Templeton, Ashburnham, Rindge and Winchendon. Ten children.

79 VI. *Silas*, b. Dec. 8, 1804.+

80 VII. *Catherine*, b. Feb. 23, 1807; md. Dec. 22, 1835, Rev. Frederick P. Stuart, b. in Claremont, N. H., Aug. 15, 1805, son of Samuel Stuart. She d. Nov. 7, 1850. One child d. young.

81 VIII. *Lewis Lincoln*, b. July 24, 1809.+

82 IX. *Harriet*, b. Dec. 10, 1811; md. June 1, 1851, Rev. Frederick P. Stuart; she d. in Fitchburg Dec. 4, 1877; he d. 1878.

83 X. *Louisa*, b. Jan. 2, 1816; d. Aug. 3, 1816.

(55) Simon Willard, son of Dea. John, was a farmer in this town. He md. Feb. 23, 1792, Nancy Cutting, dau. of Samuel Cutting, *q. v.* He d. July 20, 1854; she d. Jan. 29, 1860.

84 I. *Abel*, b. June 22, 1792; d. unmd. in Cambridge where he was engaged in hotel and stage business.

85 II. *Anna*, b. Dec. 16, 1794; md. —— Farrington; resided in Boston and at the South.

86 1. Mary Ann, b. April 4, 1823; md. Stephen Ward, *q. v.*

87 III. *Samuel*, b. Oct. 15, 1796; md. Charlotte Lincoln and resided in this town until 1821, when he removed to Dighton.

88 IV. *Charles*, b. Dec. 15, 1798; was a printer in Cambridge.

89 V. *Bromley*, b. Dec. 31, 1801.

90 VI. *Lyman*, b. ——; conducted a hotel in Cambridge, where he d. of small-pox.

91 VII. *Hannah*, b. ——; unmd.; resides in Cambridge.

92 VIII. *Oren*, b. ——; md. March 11, 1828, Susan Wyeth, b. in Cambridge May 6, 1798, dau. of Jonas and Elizabeth (Smith) Wyeth; resided in Ashby, Ashburnham and in Leominster. Several children.

(57) HENRY WILLARD, son of Dea. John, md. 1804, Martha Humphrey of Orange. He was a captain of the Light Infantry and is frequently named in the records. For several years he was a blacksmith at North Ashburnham, and late in life he removed to Winchester, N. H. The records and a prolonged search elsewhere furnish the briefest record.

93 I. *Thomas Jefferson*, b. Nov. 28, 1805.

94 II. *Francis Alexander*, b. Nov. 4, 1807.

95 III. *Ezra.*

96 IV. *Henry.*

97 V. *Martha.*

98 VI. *Lydia.*

99 VII. *Lois.*

100 VIII. *Samantha.*

(62) JONAS WILLARD, son of Dea. John, md. Ruth Lincoln and resided a few years in Dighton, where his eldest son was b. About 1814 he returned to Ashburnham. He was a farmer at North Ashburnham. He d. April 17, 1854; his widow d. July 20, 1857.

101 I. *Alonzo L.*, b. June 1, 1812.+

102 II. *Charlotte A.*, b. Jan. 26, 1815; md. March 11, 1835, Hiram Dwinnell; she d. Jan. 21, 1854. He md. (2d) 1855, Zurilla Stone of Oxford; he d. March 21, 1874.

103 1. Jonas Willard, b. 1839. Served in the 21st Regiment; lost an arm. Has been

postmaster and station agent at Burrageville. He md. Nov. 19, 1867, Sarah E. Pierce; she d. Nov. 2, 1880; md. (2d) Sept. 17, 1886, Mary E. Casey.

104 2. Waldo, b. 1842. Enlisted in the 21st Regiment; d. in Andersonville prison, Sept., 1864.

105 3. Minerva, b. Sept. 3, 1847; d. April 16, 1862.

106 III. *Marcus M.*, b. March 17, 1817; d. Dec. 4, 1841.

107 IV. *Alfred B.*, b. April 26, 1819; d. Sept. 11, 1825.

108 V. *Fannie M.*, b. April 4, 1822; d. in Leominster, unmd., Aug. 21, 1877.

109 VI. *Alfred L.*, b. Dec. 11, 1825; d. young.

110 VII. *Almeda*, b. May 2, 1829, d. young.

111 VIII. *Elizabeth*, b. July 3, 1832; md. Frank N. Boutwell of Leominster.

(63) JOHN WILLARD, son of Capt. John, md. July 4, 1820, Polly Corey, dau. of Stephen Corey. He was a farmer on the homestead, now of Benjamin E. Wetherbee. He was a man of good ability. He d. Aug. 5, 1853; she d. April 30, 1856.

112 I. *Mary Ann*, b. April 18, 1821; md. Franklin B. Stoddard, b. Oct. 19, 1823, son of Charles and Lovisa (Brigham) Stoddard of Chesterfield, N. H.; she d. ——.

113 II. *Infant*, b. Aug., 1823; d. Oct. 2, 1823.

114 III. *John Merrick*, b. March 24, 1825; d. unmd. 1849.

115 IV. *Melinda Corey*, b. March 22, 1828; md. Nathaniel Pierce, *q. v.*

116 V. *Infant*, b. ——; d. Sept. 21, 1830.

117 VI. *Jane Almira*, b. Aug. 6, 1832; md. Oct. 23, 1856, Charles G. Cushing, son of Laban Cushing, *q. v.*

118 VII. *David E.*, b. Sept. 28, 1839; md. June 12, 1876, Francena J. Whitney, dau. of Merrick Whitney, *q. v.* He is in the livery business in Fitchburg. Two children.

(69) MERRICK WILLARD, son of Capt. John, was a farmer in this town. He md. May 30, 1830, Mary G. Smith, who d. May 2, 1837; md. (2d) Oct. 9, 1837, Theda Stoddard, b. May 10, 1813, dau. of Charles and Lovisa (Brigham) Stoddard of Chesterfield, N. H. He d. Aug. 21, 1877; his widow resides in this town.

119 I. *Edward T.*, b. May 23, 1831; d. June 1, 1850.
120 II. *Charles M.*, b. June 30, 1832; resides in California; unmd.
121 III. *Mary Jane*, b. Feb. 16, 1836; md. Austin Brooks, *q. v.*
122 IV. *Francis S.*, b. Jan. 9, 1842; enlisted in Company A, 30th Regiment; d. in the service Feb. 8, 1863.
123 V. *Julia A.*, b. July 8, 1845; md. Charles W. Kendall; reside in Fitchburg,
124 VI. *Ellen M.*, b. Oct. 7, 1847; d. July 17, 1870.
125 VII. *John Quincy*, b. Sept. 10, 1849; md. Dec. 24, 1873, Martha A. Puffer, dau. of Reuben Puffer, *q. v.*; resides in this town.
126 VIII. *Frederic E.*, b. Jan. 3, 1852; md. Feb. 20, 1878, Almira A. Williams, b. Oct. 31, 1858, dau. of David W. Williams of Richmond, N. H. She d. Oct. 17, 1881; he d. Nov. 20, 1882.
127 IX. *Eva J.*, b. April 4, 1854; unmd.; resides at home.
128 X. *Royal Ellis*, b. June 23, 1857; md. Nov. 27, 1878, Annette Wallace; md. (2d) Oct. 3, 1883, Ida Ripley; resides in this town.

(79) SILAS WILLARD, son of Silas, md. May 27, 1830, Sabrina Lawrence, dau. of Capt. Moses Lawrence, *q. v.*, and has remained a resident of this town; his wife d. March 30, 1886.

129 I. *Ellen*, b. Feb. 19, 1831; md. Solomon H. Stoddard, *q. v.*
130 II. *Charles Albert*, b. Aug. 16, 1832; md. Oct. 5, 1858, Sarah L. Baldwin of Hinsdale, N. H.
131 III. *Augustine*, b. May 15, 1834; md. July 20, 1860, Mary E. Dix. He is a manufacturer of furniture in Buchanan, Mich.
132 IV. *George F.*, b. May 30, 1836; md. Oct. 29, 1859, Ann M. Collins. He d. in Ashburnham Aug. 15, 1865.
133 V. *Austin*, b. Sept. 12, 1838; d. Oct. 3, 1840.
134 VI. *Esther*, b. March 11, 1841; d. April 29, 1841.
135 VII. *Esther Jane*, b. Feb. 21, 1842; md. Feb. 26, 1866, Major Josiah W. Bride, b. in Berlin Nov. 23, 1845, son of Amos and Abigail (Smith) Bride. He was an officer of Company E, and major of the Sixth Regiment, from 1875 to 1884.
136 VIII. *Henrietta*, b. June 26, 1844; d. April 28, 1846.
137 IX. *Clement Edgar*, b. Aug. 30, 1847; md. Dec. 31, 1874, Harriet Clementine Whitney, dau. of

Merrick Whitney, *q. v.* He resides at Central Village, and, with Luther B. Adams in firm of Adams & Willard, is manufacturing chairs at South Village.

138 x. *Flora Emma*, b. Feb. 7, 1850; md. Feb. 23, 1871, Frank B. Gilson, b. in Chesterfield, N. H., June 22, 1849, son of Luke H. and Caroline (Walton) Gilson. He is of the firm of Marble & Gilson, dealers in stoves, hardware and groceries.

(81) Lewis L. Willard, son of Silas, md. Dec. 13, 1832, Lydia Clark, dau. of David Clark, *q. v.* He resided in this town and in Leominster. He d. in Somerville.

139 i. *Elizabeth Ann*, b. March 8, 1835.
140 ii. *Cynthia*, b. Aug. 25, 1838.

(101) Alonzo L. Willard, son of Jonas, md. May 7, 1837, Lucy Whitney, dau. of William Whitney, *q. v.* He is an intelligent farmer, living on the William Whitney farm.

141 i. *Albert T.*, b. Feb. 22, 1838; md. May 23, 1861, Wealthy Kendall, dau. of Alvin Kendall, *q. v.* They reside in Bethel, Vt. Two children.
142 ii. *William Henry*, b. March 4, 1842; resides at South Village. He md. May 17, 1870, Mary C. Birrell, dau. of Andrew Birrell, *q. v.* Two children.
143 iii. *Herbert A.*, b. Dec. 1, 1844; he is a machinist in Ansonia, Conn.; md. Julia Brown, dau. of William and Catherine (Whitney) Brown.
144 iv. *Lucy C.*, b. Sept. 9, 1850; md. George E. Newton of Waltham.

1 John Wilson, b. in Bradford, England, July, 1779, was pressed into the English Navy in the War of 1812. He deserted the service in the harbor of Halifax and in a small boat he made a successful voyage to Boston. He md. at Sudbury, May 8, 1816, Susannah Davis, dau. of Amos Davis, *q. v.*, and the same year he came to this town. He was a farmer and lived near the Dea. Jacob Harris farm. He d. May 9, 1859.

2 i. *Levi*, b. May 15, 1817; md. May 28, 1843, Mary Pickering of Durham, N. H., and removed to Peoria, Ill.

3 II. *Jane*, b. May 4, 1819; d. unmd. in Winchendon Oct. 27, 1878.
4 III. *Abigail T.*, b. Nov., 1820; d. Aug. 23, 1825.
5 IV. *Barbara W.*, b. May 8, 1823; d. Dec. 23, 1833.
6 V. *Amos*, b. May 7, 1825; md. Nov. 7, 1847, Susan Spaulding of Groton and removed to Marshall, Michigan.
7 VI. *John T.*, b. May 4, 1827.+
8 VII. *Hannah C.*, b. Dec. 24, 1829; md. Nov. 23, 1853, Levi Barrett of New Ipswich.
9 VIII. *Sarah E.*, b. May 10, 1833; md. Jeremiah T. Stowell, *q. v.*

(7) JOHN T. WILSON is a farmer and a painter, residing on the Peter Hunt farm. He md. Nov. 17, 1852, Ellen E. Godfrey, b. Jan. 30, 1835, dau. of Aaron P. and Mary Jane Godfrey of Chelsea, Vt.

10 I. *Albert M.*, b. Oct. 2, 1854; a locomotive engineer, residing in Jackson, Mich. He md. Oct. 3, 1878, Frances Waldron of Homer, Mich.
11 II. *John E.*, b. Jan. 16, 1863; md. Nov. 18, 1886, Josie A. Munroe, *q. v.*
12 III. *Walter H.*, b. May 7, 1864.
13 IV. *Carrie E.*, b. May 3, 1866.

WINCHESTER.

REV. JONATHAN WINCHESTER of Ashburnham was of the fourth generation of his family in this country. The lineage is briefly stated. John Winchester, aged 19 years, embarked in ship Elizabeth in 1635. He settled in Hingham and was admitted freeman 1637. He md. Oct. 15, 1638, Hannah Sealis, dau. of Dea. Richard Sealis of Scituate. In 1650, he removed to Muddy River, now Brookline, where he d. April 25, 1694. His widow d. Sept. 18, 1697. John Winchester, eldest son of John the emigrant, was bap. in Hingham June 2, 1644. He lived at Muddy River and the records name a wife Hannah and subsequently a wife Joanna. He d. Feb. 1, 1717–18. The sixth of his ten children was Henry Winchester, who md. Oct. 5, 1705, Frances White. They resided in Brookline where their seven children were born; she d. Nov. 21, 1765, aged 86. I have found no record of his death, but it was before Dec. 11, 1750, when mention of his estate is found in Probate records. In the preparation of this register I am under obligations to William A. Amee of Cambridge.

1 REV. JONATHAN WINCHESTER, the first minister of Ashburnham, a son of Henry and Frances Winchester, was b. in Brookline April 21, 1717. An account of his ministry is found in Chap. VIII. He md. May 5, 1748, Sarah Crofts. He d. Nov. 26, 1767; his widow d. July 27, 1794. Six children were b. in Brookline and four in Ashburnham.

2 i. *Samuel*, b. May 5, 1749; d. July 18, 1750.
3 ii. *Elizabeth*, b. June 20, 1751; md. Dea. Jacob Harris, *q. v.*
4 iii. *Henry*, b. May 25, 1753.+
5 iv. *Jonathan*, b. July 31, 1755.+
6 v. *Samuel*, b. July 15, 1757.+
7 vi. *Sarah*, b. Dec. 29, 1758; md. Thaddeus Brooks, *q. v.*
8 vii. *Mehitable*, b. Aug. 13, 1762; d. in Ashburnham, unmd., March 22, 1815.
9 viii. *William*, b. Sept. 13, 1764.+
10 ix. *Mary*, b. Sept. 2, 1766; md. in Ashburnham, April 26, 1796, Lemuel Jenkins, Jr., of Townsend.
11 x. *Ichabod*, b. July 30, 1768; posthumous.

(4) Henry Winchester resided in this town until about 1800, when he removed to Malone, N. Y. His letter of dismissal and recommendation from the church is dated Dec. 16, 1810, but he had been absent several years at that date. He was a soldier in Capt. Gates' company and remained at the siege of Boston in Capt. Wilder's company until the close of the year. He md. in Lancaster, April 30, 1780, Lois Phelps. Eight children were b. in this town.

12 i. *Jonathan David*, b. April 28, 1781.+
13 ii. *Sarah*, b. Jan. 17, 1783; d. 1800.
14 iii. *Lucy*, b. Feb. 1, 1785; md. Feb. 10, 1809, Rev. Ashbel Parmelee.
15 iv. *Henry*, b. March 20, 1787.+
16 v. *Infant*, b. ——; d. July 21, 1789.
17 vi. *Infant*, b. ——; d. July 24, 1790.
18 vii. *Polly*, bap. June 24, 1792; md. Barnaby Barnum.
19 viii. *Susanna Crofts*, bap. Oct. 4, 1795; md. —— Fisher.

(5) Jonathan Winchester was in Capt. Gates' company 1775 and served an enlistment in Rhode Island 1779. He md. Feb. 13, 1783, Persis Whitmore, dau. of Joseph Whitmore, *q. v.* He was a farmer in the southeast part of the town and was one of the builders of the Lord's Barn. He was a man of unblemished character, modest and unassuming. His life was a sermon of peace and good will to his fellow-men. He d. Jan. 16, 1837, aged 81; his widow d. July 17, 1837, aged 82.

20 i. *Dolly*, b. Feb. 10, 1784; md. Enos Kelton, son of Capt. Samuel Kelton, *q. v.*
21 ii. *Samuel*, b. Sept. 13, 1785.+
22 iii. *Jonathan*, b. Oct. 9, 1787.+
23 iv. *Infant*, b. 1789; d. Dec. 30, 1790.
24 v. *Persis*, b. Feb. 6, 1791; md. Jan. 4, 1843, Dea. Ezra Hemenway, b. Sept. 13, 1779, son of Samuel and Hannah (Rice) Hemenway. He was a deacon of the Hollis Evangelical church in Framingham. He d. June 26, 1847; she d. Feb. 24, 1873.
25 vi. *Caleb*, b. March 12, 1793.+
26 vii. *Betsey*, b. July 18, 1796; md. Nov. 2, 1819, Abiel Holt, son of Abiel and —— Holt; resided in Milford, N. H., where she d. June 9, 1869. No children.
27 viii. *William*, b. Oct. 19, 1798; md. June 10, 1824, Sophronia Holt, b. in Milford, N. H., Dec. 6, 1803. They resided a few years in Boston where he was engaged in business. While temporarily sojourning in quest of health he d. in New Ipswich April 3, 1828; she md. (2d) Daniel F. Stevens of Amherst, N. H. These are the parents of George F. Stevens of Ashburnham. Of William and Sophronia (Holt) Winchester there was one child.

28 1. Alma E., b. Aug. 5, 1825; d. in Amherst, N. H., unmd., May 13, 1866.

(6) Samuel Winchester resided in Brookline and in Boston. He md. July 11, 1782, Martha Reed, b. Oct. 15, 1759; d. Sept. 11, 1791; he md. (2d) 1792, Theodora Wales, b. 1767, dau. of Nathaniel and Sarah Wales of Randolph; she d. Oct. 6, 1795; md. (3d) Dec. 10, 1801, Hannah Bates of Abington. He d. in Boston April 3, 1811. His widow md. (2d) —— Richardson and d. in Philadelphia.

29 i. *Samuel*, b. April 25, 1783; d. May 7, 1807.
30 ii. *Martha*, b. June 12, 1785; md. March 8, 1810, Abel Hubbard of Groton.
31 iii. *William*, b. Nov. 21, 1787; unmd.; d. in Baltimore, Md., 1829.
32 iv. *Jonathan Reed*, b. March 28, 1790; d. Oct. 18, 1793.
33 v. *George*, b. Aug. 1, 1793. He was a Methodist clergyman; d. in Middleborough Nov. 18,

1862; md. May 30, 1816, Betsey Curtis, b. in East Stoughton June 4, 1795, dau. of William and Hannah (Linfield) Curtis; she d. Feb. 2, 1879.

34 VI. *Sarah Wales*, b. Dec. 30, 1794; md. Royal Johnson.

35 VII. *Mary Ann*, b. Oct. 3, 1802; md. Oct. 3, 1818, Cyrus Brett.

36 VIII. *Abigail Crocker*, b. Jan. 21, 1805; d. Nov. 26, 1806.

37 IX. *Augustus*, b. Nov. 29, 1806. He was a merchant in Philadelphia. He md. Oct. 5, 1828, Abigail Hutchinson, b. in Boston May 23, 1805, dau. of James and Sarah (Withington) Hutchinson. He d. April 7, 1869.

38 X. *Samuel Croft*, b. Nov. 30, 1810; md. Dec. 1, 1831, Ruth Elizabeth Gridley, b. in Boston Aug. 30, 1807, dau. of Samuel and Ruth (Studley) Gridley. She d. in Baltimore, Md., July 27, 1846. He md. (2d) May 17, 1848, Julia A. Hancock, b. in Narrows, Md., May 30, 1828, dau. of Benjamin F. and Mary A. Hancock. He was a merchant in Baltimore, Maryland.

39 XI. *Oliver Fisher* (twin), b. Nov. 30, 1810. Hon. Oliver Fisher Winchester was Lieut. Governor of Connecticut 1866, and honorably filled other positions of trust in State and municipal affairs. In early life he was a carpenter and contractor in Baltimore. He removed in 1847 to New Haven, Conn., and became identified with several successful business enterprises and was the founder of the Winchester Arms Company of New Haven. He md. Feb. 20, 1834, Jane Ellen Hope, b. in Portland, Me., Dec. 28, 1809, dau. of Robert Hope, a native of England.

(12) Rev. Jonathan David Winchester was a Presbyterian minister of some celebrity. *Vide* page 495. He preached in Madrid and Waddington, N. Y., 1811–21; in Brighton, N. Y., 1821–25; and in Ohio several years. He d. at Madison, Ohio, Aug. 17, 1835. He md. Hannah M. Bunn, b. in Norfolk, Conn., May 11, 1784, dau. of John and Bethiah (Fields) Bunn; she md. (2d) May 2, 1842, Joseph B. Cowles, who d. 1854; she d. at Staceyville, Iowa, Jan. 23, 1876.

40 I. *Philander*, b. Oct. 4, 1812; was by occupation a civil engineer. He was a pioneer in the anti-slavery and temperance reforms and his life was devoted to philanthropy. He md. April 9, 1838, Elizabeth Gilman Calkins, b. in Waterbury, Vt., Aug. 16, 1814, dau. of Charles and Maria (Gilman) Calkins. He resided many years in Ohio and d. at Detroit, Mich., April 24, 1878. Nine children.

41 II. *Dilectus*, b. Jan. 17, 1814; d. Sept. 10, 1814.

42 III. *Darius*, b. Sept. 29, 1815; d. Sept. 23, 1821.

43 IV. *Electus*, b. Nov. 15, 1817; unmd.; resides in Staceyville, Iowa.

44 V. *Mary D.*, b. March 20, 1822; d. Feb. 2, 1839.

45 VI. *Melana*, b. July 19, 1824; md. Sept. 14, 1861, Orran Orcutt. He was postmaster at Staceyville, Iowa, where he d. Feb. 5, 1882; his widow was appointed his successor. Two daughters: Edith Melana, b. Jan. 11, 1865; Orpha E., b. Aug. 25, 1866.

46 VII. *Amandus*, b. June 25, 1827; md. June 6, 1855, Margaret Patton. He resides at St. Joseph, Michigan.

(15) HENRY WINCHESTER, son of Henry, was a farmer in Madrid, N. Y., where he d. Oct. 22, 1836. He md. 1808, Sybil Whipple, b. in Malone, N. Y., May 16, 1791; d. Jan. 13, 1813; md. (2d) Aug. 22, 1814, Isabel O. Foster, b. in Middlebury, Vt., Jan. 9, 1785; d. Sept. 8, 1868.

47 I. *David*, b. Oct. 10, 1810; md. Oct. 19, 1837, Mrs. Elvira (Blanchard) Spring. He d. in Malone, N. Y., April 1, 1845.

48 II. *Holland*, b. May 5, 1812; md. Sarah Sparhawk.

49 III. *Infant*, d. young.

50 IV. *Orpha Maria*, b. May, 1817; md. Edward S. Barrett; md. (2d) Dea. Harlow Perry.

51 V. *William Henry*, b. Oct. 10, 1820; md. 1840, Eliza Sparhawk, who d. 1842; md. (2d) Jane R. Keesey. He resides at River Falls, Wis.

52 VI. *Warren W.*, b. April 22, 1823. Middlebury College 1842; is a Congregational clergyman at Williamstown. He md. July 26, 1848, Catherine M. Seaverance.

53 VII. *Oliver W.*, b. April 18, 1826. Middlebury College 1849. A missionary in Turkey under the auspices of the A. B. C. F. M. He now resides at Reedsburg, Wis. He md. Aug. 10, 1852,

Mary Abbie Learned; md. (2d) Oct. 9, 1856, Janette S. Jones.

(21) SAMUEL WINCHESTER, son of Jonathan, Jr., was a successful farmer and influential citizen of Sullivan, N. H., where he d. Oct. 20, 1865. He md. May 7, 1813, Sarah Foster, b. in Roxbury, N. H., June 21, 1794, dau. of Enoch and Rebecca (French) Foster. He md. (2d) Chloe F. Boynton, dau. of David Boynton; md. (3d) Eusebia Eames, who d. June 12, 1880. One child by first, eight by second and one by third marriage.

54 I. *Sarah F.*, b. Jan. 27, 1814; md. John Thompson; md. (2d) Levi Barrett of Gilsum.

55 II. *Enoch Whitmore*, b. April 28, 1816; md. Dec. 3, 1841, Mary E. Petts; md. (2d) March 9, 1846, Martha Kingsbury.

56 III. *Emory* (twin), b. April 28, 1816; d. Dec. 12, 1816.

57 IV. *Mary M.*, b. Nov. 22, 1817; md. Jan. 6, 1840, C. C. Comstock; she d. Dec., 1863.

58 V. *Harriet Eliza*, b. July 2, 1819; md. May 4, 1842, Jacob Staples.

59 VI. *Samuel Alexander*, b. May 24, 1823; is a merchant at Grand Rapids, Mich.; md. April 1, 1847, Mary Elizabeth Gibbs, dau. of Matthew Gibbs of Framingham; she d. 1848; md. (2d) 1851, Rebecca Bailey, b. in Swanzey, N. H., 1825; d. July 21, 1877; md. (3d) Oct. 26, 1881, Martha (Gibbs) Bailey.

60 VII. *Alpheus Boynton*, b. March 19, 1825; d. 1872.

61 VIII. *William Warren*, b. Sept. 4, 1827.

62 IX. *Chloe Augusta*, b. Oct. 17, 1830; d. Feb. 15, 1851.

63 X. *Elliot C.*, b. Oct. 2, 1832; md. March 17, 1857, Annie E. Rawson. He represented Sullivan in the Legislature 1871–1872, and has recently removed to Grand Rapids, Mich.

(22) JONATHAN WINCHESTER, son of Jonathan, Jr., md. June 22, 1815, Sylvia Willard, dau. of Silas Willard, Esq., *q. v.*; she d. Oct. 3, 1832; he md. (2d) Dec. 31, 1834, Mary (Rice) Ward, widow of Caleb Ward, *q. v.* He was a farmer in this town where he d. Oct. 24, 1870; his wife d. Nov. 26, 1858.

64 I. *Albert Norris*, b. Jan. 27, 1816; md. March 12, 1848, Adaline Lewis; removed to Fitchburg.

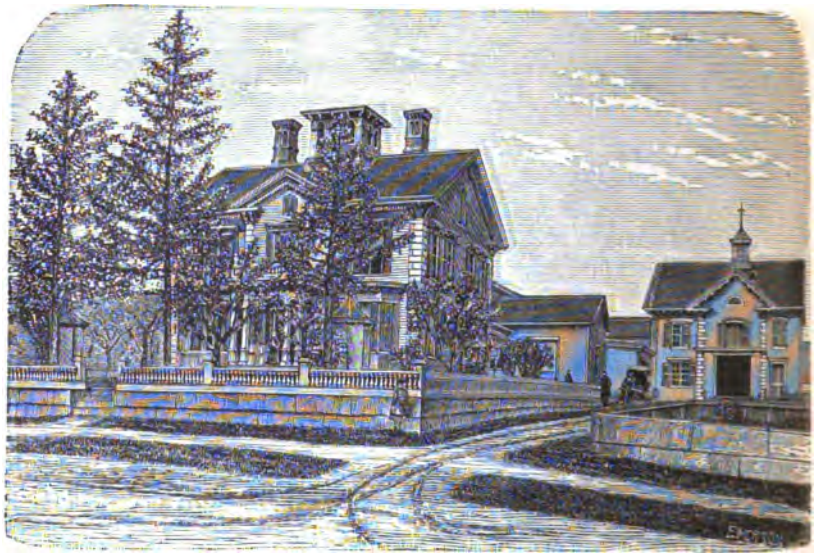
65 II. *Harriet Amelia*, b. March 10, 1818; md. Dec. 8, 1837, Joseph Plaistridge of Cornish, N. H.

66 III. *Silas Willard*, b. July 28, 1820; md. April 12, 1842, Mary A. Gipson, dau. of Henry Gipson, *q. v.* She d. Dec. 19, 1857; he d. Jan 22, 1859.
67 IV. *Laura Augusta*, b. Feb. 12, 1822; d. June 12, 1837.
68 V. *Sylvia W.*, b. July 5, 1832; md. Sept. 21, 1851, Frederick W. Haskins.

(25) CALEB WINCHESTER, son of Jonathan, Jr., md. May 26, 1817, Lydia Sanderson, dau. of Moses Sanderson, *q. v.* He removed to Brighton and was actively engaged in the cattle and meat trade. He d. April 8, 1828; his widow d. Feb. 20, 1844.

69 I. *Charles*, b. May 24, 1819.+
70 II. *Susan*, b. April 22, 1821; md. May 4, 1843, John M. Whitney, who d. May 23, 1861; she resides in this town.
71 III. *George Otis*, b. July 27, 1823; d. May 2, 1824.
72 IV. *Lydia Ann*, b. Jan. 29, 1825; md. April 27, 1846, Joseph M. Whitman, who is living in Chicago, Ill. She d. Sept 16, 1848, leaving one son.
73 1. Frederick, b. June 30, 1848; resides, unmd., in Chicago, Ill.
74 V. *George Caleb*, b. April 23, 1828.+

(69) CHARLES WINCHESTER was born in Brighton, but his parents were natives of this town and substantial representatives of Ashburnham families. His father died before he had completed his ninth year, and the widowed mother with four children removed to this town. At the age of twenty years he opened a store on Water street and at once manifested an aptitude for business, which has distinguished his subsequent career. After three years he removed to a store on Main street, on the site of the present "Brick Store," and here he continued in trade alone and with his brother nearly thirty years. In 1842 he purchased of Philip R. Merriam a small chair factory, which stood below the bridge on Main street. Under his sagacious management this business was rapidly developed and the store became an adjunct to an important and growing industry. In Chap. XVII, reference is made to the growth of the chair business in this town, and in this connection the details are not repeated. Since his retirement from an active participation in the business affairs of this town, Mr. Winchester has remained a resident of Ashburnham. He has been interested in



RESIDENCE OF CHARLES WINCHESTER.

several commercial and manufacturing enterprises in Boston and at the West, and has made liberal investments in western and southern lands.

He has been a director of the Rollstone National Bank of Fitchburg since its organization, and was a director of the Rollstone Bank under its former charter, and for many years he has been a trustee of the Worcester North Savings Institution. He is a trustee of the Cushing Academy and of the Wesleyan Academy at Wilbraham. Yet, through the years of an active life, Mr. Winchester has never sought office nor desired positions in corporate and monetary institutions.

As a citizen he has constantly manifested a commendable interest in the growth and prosperity of Ashburnham. He was a generous contributor to the building fund of the Methodist church and to a substantial support of the society he has supplemented the gift of a commodious parsonage. The pipe organ in the church edifice was presented by Mrs. Winchester. He md. Feb. 28, 1844, Nancy E. Maynard, dau. of Antipas Maynard, *q. v.*

75 1. *Lizzie C.*, b. Nov. 1, 1847; md. Nov. 29, 1866, Herbert F. Whiting, son of Francis D. and Olive (Carpenter) Whiting. They reside in this town.

76 1. Frederick C., b. June 1, 1868; d. Nov. 17, 1871.
77 2. Edith E., b. Dec. 29, 1870.
78 3. Mabel L., b. Dec. 30, 1874.

79 II. *Frederick C.*, b. July 13, 1852; md. June 23, 1873, Ardella A. Pike.

(74) GEORGE C. WINCHESTER was born in Brighton a few days after the death of his father. He came to Ashburnham in childhood. In 1848 he was admitted to an equal partnership in the store and chair business in the firm of C. and G. C. Winchester. In 1870, by purchase, he became the sole proprietor of an extensive business, and after a few years of able and sagacious management his mental forces failed and his business became seriously complicated. At mid-age he had performed the labor of a lifetime, and the brain of the master refused to obey the commands of courage unimpaired. With failing energy he struggled for continued supremacy, yet all escaped from his nerveless grasp. If, in his methods in an hour of severest trial, he did not secure the approbation of his friends, he received their tearful sympathy as he left a fortune he had made, a business he had founded, a town he had enriched, a village he had improved and beautified, to the enjoyment of his early and later friends and associates.

In former pages, referring to the business interests of this town, reference was made to the foundations he laid and the edifice he reared. The architect in his personal habit remains, as yet, unnoticed. George C. Winchester was unlike all other men, and his severest critics will be those who knew him least — those who never were invited within the inner warmth and light of a sympathetic and responsive nature. In his daily life, when free for a moment from the burdens of an exacting business, his affections were warm and his impulses glowed with the light of spontaneous kindness. If his numerous and thoughtful charities were not measured by the even and sometimes icy hand of method, the sick were the recipients of generous donations, and the fading hours of many of his neighbors were cheered and brightened by his kind and substantial remembrance.

If, in his business life, he was swift to reap the fruits of his own sagacity and liberal in the interpretation to his own advantage of any ambiguous conditions of a contract, he is still seen as an apt pupil in the business methods of his time, and in the disciplines of his life he finds many

precedents. And if in the supreme passage of his life, when he beheld his fortune, the fruit of continued toil and ceaseless activity, fleeing from his grasp, when accumulating trials met him at every hand and the removal of embarrassment was the open door to disaster, if, in an hour of frenzy he overstepped the formulated rules of law and order, charity proffers the suggestion that he struggled for supremacy in a business once his own, and fought for a kingdom when exile, as time has proved, was the alternative of defeat.

He md. Dec. 16, 1849, Sarah W. Handley, dau. of Nathan Handley, *q. v.* Only one of their four children is living.

80 I. *Herbert H.*, b. Nov. 29, 1858; md. Jan. 31, 1884, Carrie W. Sessions. He d. Aug. 29, 1885.

81 II. *Edward G.*, b. Dec. 30, 1861; resides in Ashburnham.

82 III. *Waldo*, b. Feb. 24, 1869; d. same day.

83 IV. *Willie* (twin), b. Feb. 24, 1869; d. same day.

1 ANDREW WINTER, a German, with wife Mary and two children settled in this town in 1758. The name is written Windrow in the earlier records. He d. Nov. 22, 1792, aged 70; his widow d. March 14, 1814, aged 91.

2 I. *Philip*, b. March 22, 1754; d., in the army, 1776.

3 II. *John*, b. March 1, 1756.+

4 III. *Jacob*, b. Oct. 21, 1758; he was in Capt. Wilder's company in the siege of Boston 1775, and d. a prisoner at Halifax in Nov., 1777.

5 IV. *Andrew*, b. March 28, 1761.+

6 V. *Mary*, b. Aug. 24, 1763.

7 VI. *Margaret*, b. April 19, 1766.

8 VII. *Catherine*, b. July 19, 1769; md. June 22, 1792, William Carr of Westminster, Vt.

(3) JOHN WINTER md. Nov. 10, 1781, Phebe Wright of Lancaster. He served three years in the Revolution. He was a farmer in this town where he d. June 19, 1811; she md. (2d) Levi Maynard, *q. v.*; md. (3d) Benjamin Hawks. She d. Dec. 27, 1847, aged 84.

9 I. *John*, b. June 18, 1783.

10 II. *Ruth*, b. April 11, 1785; md. William Broughton, son of Wait Broughton, *q. v.*

(5) ANDREW WINTER, JR., was in the army in 1780, and was subsequently a farmer in this town. In 1792 his

farm was annexed to Ashby. He md. May 6, 1785, Abigail Lewis. Five children were born in this town and one in Ashby.

11 I. *Jacob*, b. Feb. 10, 1786.
12 II. *Jonas*, b. Sept. 21, 1787.
13 III. *Levi*, b. March 30, 1789.
14 IV. *Asa*, b. Sept. 4, 1791; d. March 2, 1793.
15 V. *Amos*, b. June 24, 1793.
16 VI. *Asa*, b. June 3, 1795.

WOOD.

There have been several families of Wood in this town and very few ties of kinship are found among them. The first of the name in Ashburnham were the brothers Timothy and Ebenezer Wood who were grandsons of Jeremiah Wood of Stow and Littleton. They did not remain here many years, but both were among the men from this town who responded to the alarm at Lexington and one of them remained in the service until the close of the year.

Jonathan Wood, a later arrival, was from Rindge. Among his ancestors were Michael Wood of Lunenburg, Michael Wood of Concord, son of William Wood, the emigrant ancestor of one family of Wood in this country.

Nathan and his son, Nahum Wood, are also descendants of William Wood of Concord. Michael Wood, the only son of William Wood, the emigrant ancestor, d. in Concord May 13, 1674. Abraham Wood, son of Michael, settled in Sudbury. His youngest son was Dea. Nathan Wood, b. March 24, 1723; md. May 2, 1750, Rebecca Haynes. After a brief residence in Stow he removed in 1756 to Westminster, where he d. June 17, 1777. His fifteen children were living at his decease. Nathan[2] Wood, son of Nathan, was b. in Stow Nov. 7, 1752, and was nearly four years of age when his parents removed to Westminster. He md. Polly Cowee and (2d) Margaret Hadley; d. Jan. 1, 1841. Nathan Wood of Ashburnham was a son of Nathan and Margaret (Hadley) Wood.

Stephen Wood, who has resided in this town forty years, is a son of Joshua Wood of Hancock, N. H., who was a descendant of one branch of the Leominster families of Wood.

1 TIMOTHY WOOD, son of John and Lydia (Davis) Wood and grandson of Jeremiah and Dorothy Wood, was b. in Littleton July 29, 1749. He came to Ashburnham previous to 1770. He was taxed here 1771, and in 1775 he was a member of Capt. Davis' company of minute-men. About this time he removed to Rindge, where he lived about ten years when he removed to Harvard where he d. July 18, 1801. He md. in Ashburnham Nov. 20, 1770, Elizabeth Cheney, dau. of Dea. Tristram Cheney, *q. v.* She d. Sept. 10, 1796. Three children were baptized here.

2 I. *John*, b. March 24, 1772.
3 II. *Betsey*, b. June 7, 1777.

4 iii. *Susanna*, b. Sept. 2, 1779. This child was born in Rindge and baptized in Ashburnham when three days old.

5 EBENEZER WOOD, a brother of Timothy Wood, was b. in Littleton Jan. 20, 1754. He removed to Ashburnham previous to April, 1775, when his name appears on the roll of Capt. Gates' company of minute-men. He served the remainder of the year in the siege of Boston in Capt. Wilder's company. He md. April 7, 1776, Phebe Brooks, and they united with the church in Ashburnham 1777. The third child was baptized here Sept 24, 1780, and about that date the family removed to Washington, N. H.; he d. Dec. 28, 1840; she d. Jan. 2, 1844.

6 i. *Lydia*, b. April 9, 1777.
7 ii. *Ebenezer*, b. Sept. 25, 1778.
8 iii. *Jonas Davis*, b. Sept. 13, 1780.
9 iv. *Asa*, b. July 18, 1782.
10 v. *Mary*, b. 1784; d. 1784.
11 vi. *Phebe*, b. May 4, 1787.
12 vii. *Sophia*, b. Dec. 27, 1788.

13 JONATHAN WOOD, son of Isaac and Elizabeth (Hartwell) Wood of Rindge, grandson of Michael and Mary (Platts) Wood of Lunenburg, was b. in Rindge April 17, 1773. He md. April 10, 1799, Dolly Jones, dau. of Enos Jones, *q. v.*, and settled in the north part of this town. His wife d. Jan. 8, 1818; he md. (2d) Dec. 21, 1820, Sarah (Lake) Robinson, widow of Ezra Robinson and dau. of Henry and Prudence Lake of Rindge. He d. Sept. 1, 1825 (*vide* page 546). She md. (3d) Amos Stearns; md. (4th) May 19, 1842, Josiah Hartwell of Fitchburg. There were ten children by the first and two by the second marriage.

14 i. *Zulina*, b. Nov. 30, 1799; md. 1823, Asa Dunn of Fitchburg.
15 ii. *Laura*, b. June 20, 1801; md. April 22, 1823, John Vose of Leominster.
16 iii. *Dolly*, b Feb. 3, 1803; md. April 8, 1823, Zachariah Parker, Jr., of New Ipswich.
17 iv. *Elnathan*, b. Sept. 20, 1804; d. July 29, 1829.
18 v. *George*, b. Sept. 29, 1806; md. Sept. 16, 1827, Luana Lawrence.
19 vi. *Betsey*, b. June 25, 1808; md. Feb. 6, 1827, Luther Perkins of Weathersfield, Vt.
20 vii. *Zoa*, b. Jan. 24, 1810; d. Sept. 7, 1822.

21 VIII. *Lurena*, b. Dec. 12, 1812; md. Jan. 16, 1831, Freeman Walcott.

22 IX. *Hartwell*, b. Oct. 27, 1815; md. 1841, Laura Snell. She d. Jan. 1, 1843; he d. July 26, 1846.

23 X. *Jonas J.*, b. Jan. 1, 1818; md. 1852, Lucy Wood of Mason, N. H. She d. Nov. 4, 1853; md. (2d) 1854, Lydia Parker of Lawrence, who d. Aug. 12, 1859. He removed 1860 to Winchendon, where he d. Oct. 13, 1863.

24 XI. *Eunice K.*, b. March 22, 1824; md. George P. Ward, son of Alvan Ward, *q. v.*

25 XII. *Eliphalet S.*, b. Feb. 2, 1825.+

(25) ELIPHALET S. WOOD resided in this town until 1866, when he removed to Winchendon. He has been constable many years and an overseer of the poor, and a deputy-sheriff since 1870. From 1866 to 1886 he was express agent at Winchendon. He md. Sept. 20, 1846, Susan H. Farrar, dau. of John Farrar, *q. v.*

26 I. *Ella Modina*, b. Sept. 23, 1847; md. May 20, 1876, John E. Wakefield; reside in Worcester.

27 II. *Frank A.*, b. May 9, 1850; d. March 2, 1851.

28 III. *George Farrar*, b. Aug. 21, 1851; md. Aug. 25, 1874, Alice H. Merrill, dau. of E. S. Merrill, Esq. He is a dealer in furniture in Winchendon.

29 IV. *Calla A.*, b. July 30, 1855; md Jan. 20, 1876, John W. Beaman, son of William Beaman of Winchendon.

30 V. *Oliver B.*, b. Feb. 7, 1857; md. Oct. 19, 1882, Jennie C. Flagg; resides in Worcester.

31 VI. *Walter L.*, b. Oct. 17, 1859; d. June 25, 1864.

32 VII. *Ernest Freeman*, b. June 18, 1863; is express agent at Winchendon.

33 VIII. *Cora Etta*, b. April 4, 1867.

34 NATHAN WOOD, son of Nathan Wood of Westminster, b. Feb. 16, 1802, md. May 17, 1827, Maria Barrell, dau. of William and Deborah (Chittenden) Barrell, *q. v.* In 1835 he removed to this town. He resided in the house in Central Village formerly of Capt. David Cushing, and now of his son Nahum Wood. After a brief residence here he d. Nov. 25, 1836.

35 I. *Nahum*, b. Dec. 14, 1827; md. Sept. 28, 1852, Dorothy M. Clark, dau. of Levi Clark, *q. v.* He is a farmer in this town.

36 II. *Lucy M.*, b. Jan. 23, 1830; md. Charles E. Locke, *q. v.*

37 III. *Arvilla*, b. Feb. 16, 1834; d. unmd. Sept. 8, 1854.

38 STEPHEN WOOD, b. in Hancock, N. H., Dec. 16, 1818, came to this town 1846. He was a farmer. He md. Dec. 12, 1848, Mary Ward, dau. of Nathaniel D. Ward, *q. v.* He d. Sept. 29, 1886.

39 I. *Charles S.*, b. Feb. 24, 1855; md. Sept. 20, 1881, Hattie F. Barrell, dau. of Joseph Benson Barrell, *q. v.*

40 MARSHALL P. WOOD, b. in Rindge Nov. 19, 1837, son of Addison M. and Ann (Plummer) Wood, md. 1861, Julia A. Hunt, b. July 1, 1839, dau. of Joshua and Lucia (Todd) Hunt. He served three years in the Ninth New Hampshire Volunteers, and removed to this town soon after his discharge from an honorable service.

41 I. *Willie M.*, b. 1868; d. June 9, 1884.

WOODS.

SAMUEL WOODS, b. in England 1686, came to this country soon after the year 1700. He settled in Chelmsford, where he md. 1717, Mary Parker, dau. of John Parker. He owned a farm and was taxed in Chelmsford from 1720 to 1743. He d., leaving one son and two daughters, in 1763.

Samuel Woods, son of Samuel, was b. in Chelmsford June 19, 1722; resided in Rutland some years and removed to Princeton in 1761. He purchased of Moses Gill a tract of land, where he built his house and where he resided until his death. He was an intelligent, enterprising citizen, and frequently employed in town affairs. In his house he taught the first school in Princeton. Subsequently he taught many terms of school and acquired the reputation of a skilful and successful teacher. The measure of his character and intellect has been reflected in the inheritance of his sons, and probably their scholarly attainments were reared on the solid foundation of his instruction. He md. Tabitha Eveleth, b. April 4, 1731, by whom he had ten children. She d. Oct. 22, 1770; he md. (2d) 1772, Abigail (Whitney) Underwood, b. March 13, 1741, widow of Israel Underwood; she d. Jan. 31, 1826. By this marriage there were five children. He d. Nov. 18, 1808.

Of the children of Samuel and Tabitha Woods, Lydia, b. Aug. 4, 1759, was the wife of Daniel Gibbs, *q. v.*; Anna, b. June 30, 1761, was the wife of Capt. Charles Hastings, *q. v.*; Sarah, b. July 6, 1763, was the wife of Col. Joseph Jewett, *q. v.*; John, b. Dec. 24, 1768, is No. 1 in the following register. Asa Woods, son of Samuel and Abigail Woods, b. April 30, 1776, is No. 15 in the following register. Hannah, another child of the second wife, b. May 13, 1778, md. Nahum Wilder, *q. v.*, and Mary, b. Feb. 15, 1783, md. Thomas Wilder, *q. v.*

Rev. Dr. Leonard Woods, b. June 19, 1774, md. Oct. 8, 1799, Abigail Wheeler of Worcester, and was the eminent Professor of Theology and an important factor in the foundation of the Andover Theological Seminary. Among his children was Samuel Woods, No. 33 in the following register.

Another son of Samuel Woods by first marriage was Rev. Abel Woods, b. Aug. 15, 1765. He was not immediately associated with the people of Ashburnham, and yet, through his many relatives, his name is familiar to them, and no notice of this distinguished family would be complete without mention of a useful life. He was a Baptist clergyman of marked ability in Shoreham, Vt. He d. in Hamilton, N. Y., Aug. 11, 1850. Of his venerable son, Rev. Alva Woods, D. D., who is living at Providence, R. I., a recent publication, "Providence Plantations," contains a portrait and the following notice:

"The Rev. Alva Woods, D. D., the oldest surviving professor of Brown University, was b. in Shoreham, Vt., Aug. 13, 1794. He was graduated at Harvard College in 1817, and at the Andover Theological Seminary in 1821. He served as professor of mathematics and natural philosophy in the Columbian University, Washington, D. C., and in Brown University, aggregating seven years. He served as president and professor of moral and intellectual philosophy in the State University of Kentucky, Lexington, and in the University of the State of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, aggregating ten years. His son, Marshall Woods, is a trustee of Brown University, and for some sixteen years rendered very important services to the college as its treasurer. His grandson, John Carter Brown Woods, is also a trustee of the same institution. In his various relations with Brown University as a professor, as president *pro tempore*, as a trustee, and as a fellow, the Rev. Dr. Alva Woods has been connected with this university nearly fifty years."

1 JOHN WOODS, son of Samuel and Tabitha Woods, b. in Princeton Dec 24, 1768. He was in the employ of Col. Jewett in farming and in the manufacture of potash several years and subsequently was a farmer living on the old road to Winchendon. He md. July 5, 1792, Betsey Petts, who d. Dec. 4, 1824; md. (2d) Sept. 5, 1826, Mrs. Eunice Whitney of Cambridge who d. Nov. 8, 1827; md. (3d) June 1, 1831, Mrs. Rebecca Draper of Ware. In old age he removed to Crown Point, N. Y., where he d. June 25, 1863, aged 94; another record says 1869.

2 I. *Abel*, b. Dec. 20, 1792.
3 II. *Betsey*, b. Nov. 13, 1794.
4 III. *Dolly S.*, b. Dec. 25, 1796.
5 IV. *John*, b. June 12, 1799; d. at Savannah, Ga., Sept. 15, 1820.
6 V. *Melissa*, b. June 4, 1801.
7 VI. *Sarah*, b. June 19, 1803.
8 VII. *Asa G.*, b. Sept. 28, 1805; d. unmd June 3, 1867.
9 VIII. *Mary J.*, b. July 24, 1807; md. Henry Kibling, *q. v.*
10 IX. *Samuel*, b. Aug. 8, 1809; d. May 27, 1810.
11 X. *Infant*, b. ——; d. June 15, 1811.
12 XI. *Samuel*, b. July 27, 1812.
13 XII. *Betsey B.*, b. Aug. 7, 1817.
14 XIII. *John Stillman*, b. Aug. 2, 1827; md. March 21, 1874, Martha Jane Hastings, dau. of John Hastings, *q. v.* She d. April 17, 1885.

15 ASA WOODS, son of Samuel and Abigail Woods, was b. in Princeton April 30, 1776. He was a farmer in the east part of the town. He was a prominent citizen and was frequently chosen to office. He md. in Princeton April 16, 1799, Permelia Mirick, b. Sept. 19, 1776, dau. of James and Dorothy (Fairbanks) Mirick. With three children they removed to this town in 1804 or early in 1805. His wife d. Sept. 12, 1814; md. 1815, Rebecca Wallis (Wilker register) who d. Aug. 4, 1826; md. (3d) Jan. 18, 1827, Susan Wallis, a sister of second wife; she d. April 30, 1827; md. (4th) Mrs. Peggy (Russell) Adams, widow of Ebenezer Adams, *q. v.* He d. April, 28, 1844; she d. March 29, 1865.

16 I. *Leonard*, b. March 25, 1800.
17 II. *William*, b. Feb. 14, 1802.
18 III. *Adaline*, b. March 25, 1804; md. Joseph B. Hastings, *q. v.*
19 IV. *Darwin*, b. April 19, 1807.+
20 V. *Mary*, b. March 30, 1809; d. Feb. 17, 1827.
21 VI. *Permelia*, b. June 14, 1811.
22 VII. *Dorothy*, b. July 30, 1813.
23 VIII. *Levi Wallis*, b. May 31, 1816.
24 IX. *Joseph B.*, b. May 25, 1819; md. Mercy Elizabeth Fairbanks, dau. of Jacob Fairbanks, *q. v.*
25 X. *Betsey Sarah*, b. April 17, 1822.
26 XI. *Lysander Lowe*, b. Dec. 28, 1824; d. Sept. 7, 1825.
27 XII. *Lysander*, b. July 27; d. Sept. 26, 1826.
28 XIII. *Charles*, b. July 28, 1829.
29 XIV. *Catherine*, b. May 23, 1831; md. 1848, Julius C. Aldrich of Winchendon; md. (2d) Silas H. Fairbanks, *q. v.*; md. (3d) George Howard, *q. v.*

(19) DARWIN WOODS md. 1828, Dolly G. Adams, dau. of Ensign John Adams, *q. v.*; she d. Feb. 22, 1842; md. (2d) April 9, 1844, Julia King, widow of Hiram N. King. He d. July 24, 1872. Hiram N. King d. in this town Oct. 19, 1840, leaving daughters: Julia Frances, b. April 24, 1834, md. —— Woodward of Lowell; Mary Amanda, b. March 31, 1841. Of Darwin and Dolly Woods there were three children.

30 I. *Mary A.*, b. Sept. 13, 1829; d. June 15, 1881.
31 II. *Cinderilla*, b. July 19, 1831; md. Oct. 10, 1867, F. A. Burnap; residence Jersey City, N. J.
32 III. *Edwin*, b. March 13, 1834; resides in Leominster.

33 SAMUEL WOODS, eldest son of Rev. Leonard Woods, D. D., was b. in West Newbury Oct. 26, 1800. He was a student some years at Phillips Academy, and at fifteen years of age he came to Ashburnham and during his minority was a clerk in the "Jewett Store." He attended the winter terms of the public schools of this town and one term at New Ipswich Academy. In 1824 he formed a partnership with Gen. Ivers Jewett. They soon became proprietors of a store and cotton mill in Fitchburg and the mill at Factory Village. In 1828 the partnership was dissolved. By a division of the property and repurchase of the store in this town, which had been sold to Samuel Barrett, Mr. Woods acquired possession of the store and the mill at Factory Village. In the succeeding years he was associated in business with George H. Lowe, Samuel S. Stevens and others. In 1843 he removed to Ashby, and in 1857 to Malden. During the last years of his life he lived with his son, Dr. Leonard Woods, in Pittsford, Vt. While a resident of this town and through life he was an earnest advocate of temperance, and every reform of his time found in him a firm and willing support. He was a man of unfailing integrity, and his impulses were pure and philanthropic. He md. May 4, 1825, Mary H. Lowe, dau. of Dr. Abraham Lowe, *q. v.*; she d. Dec. 23, 1838; md. (2d) Sept. 5, 1839, Mary Caldwell, dau. of John Caldwell, *q. v.*; she d. Aug. 18, 1873; he d. in Pittsford, Vt., Nov. 27, 1884.

34 I. *Samuel Hale*, b. July 15, 1827; md. March 18, 1857, Julia A. Carsley. He was an apothecary in Boston, living in Malden, where he d. March 6, 1869.

35 II. *Joseph Wheeler*, b. July 17, 1829; md. Sept. 1, 1858, Caroline F. Fitz of Ipswich. He is a merchant in Boston; residence Boston.

36 III. *Mary Greenleaf*, b. Aug. 31, 1831; she d. in Gambier, Ohio, July 12, 1854.

37 IV. *Abbie Wheeler*, b. Nov. 7, 1834: md. Jan. 5, 1869, Rev. Frederick A. Fiske, pastor of Congregational church in Ashburnham 1851–4, *vide* page 274; he d. Dec. 15, 1878; she resides in Boston with her brother, Joseph W. Woods.

38 V. *Leonard*, b. July 5, 1840; a physician, *vide* page 516; md. April 13, 1868, Mary E. Thompson of Waltham. He d. Dec. 12, 1884.

39 VI. *Frederick Caldwell*, b. Jan. 23, 1848; d. Sept. 3, 1849.

1 JOHN G. WOODWARD, son of John and Mary (Ward) Woodward, was b. in Westminster. *Vide* register of John Ward family. He is a farmer residing on the farm formerly of John Ward, and has served the town as assessor and selectman. He is justly held in high esteem by his townsmen. He md. Nov. 24, 1835, Mary Ward, dau. of John Ward, *q. v.*

2 I. *John*, b. 1840; d. Aug. 10, 1842.

3 II. *Charles Edward*, b. April 23, 1842; md. Oct. 2, 1864, Flora E. Ward, dau. of Isaac D. Ward, *q. v.*; she d. Nov. 3, 1867; md. (2d) 1872, Susan Augusta Fairbanks, dau. of Emory Fairbanks, *q. v.* He was a member of the school committee several years and a deacon of the Congregational church. In 1885 he removed to Leominster.

1 JAMES L. WORCESTER, son of Ai Worcester, was b. in Grafton, Vt., July 27, 1821. He md. Jan. 18, 1844, Sarah Aldrich, b. in Richmond, N. H., Aug. 13, 1821. He removed to this town about 1848, and is a farmer at the South Village.

2 I. *Esther Elizabeth*, b. Jan. 30, 1846; md. Oct. 9, 1870, I. R. Wilson of Gardner.

3 II. *George Levi*, b. Aug. 18, 1849, a railroad conductor, residing in Fitchburg; md. May 17, 1883, Carrie Williams.

4 III. *Ella Adalaide*, b. July 26, 1853; md. July 24, 1870, Charles A. Smith; resides in Winchendon.

5 IV. *Alfred Miller*, b. March 18, 1856; md. 1881, Etta Dunn; resides in Gardner.

6 V. *Sarah Jane*, b. April 28, 1858; md. Nov. 23, 1879, L. R. Hodgman; resides in Ashburnham.

7 VI. *Abbie Eugenia*, b. April 20, 1862.

WRIGHT.

Families of Wright were numerous at an early date in several towns in this vicinity, but the name seldom appears in the records of Ashburnham until a more recent date. Laban W. Wright is a descendant in the seventh generation of Dea. John Wright who with wife Priscilla is found in Charlestown in 1640. At that time he was one of the subscribers to the conditions or town orders for the settlement of Woburn, where he subsequently resided. He was a deacon of the church and a selectman many years. He d. June 21, 1688, aged 87. His wife d. April 10, 1687. John Wright, a son of Dea. John Wright, was b. 1630, probably in England. He md. Abigail Warren and was one of the first settlers of Chelmsford, where his nine children were born. He d. probably in Woburn, April 30, 1714, aged 84; his widow d. April 6, 1726, aged 84. John Wright, his son, b. in Chelmsford 1662, md.

Mary Stevens; md. (2d) about 1702, Hannah Fletcher. He d. Oct. 13, 1730. Among the children of John and Mary (Stevens) Wright was Henry Wright, b. 1700; md. Esther Adams, and about the date of his marriage the town of Westford which included his homestead was severed from Chelmsford. He was a selectmen and treasurer of Westford and for many years a deacon of the church. He d. April 13, 1771. Among his eleven children was Henry Wright, Jr., b. 1732. In 1770 he was one of the committee of arrangements for raising the new meeting-house in Westford, and his son Elijah was the first child baptized in it. He was town treasurer and during the Revolution one of the committee of correspondence. About 1780 he removed to Ashby where his descendants are numerous. He md. Jan., 1753, Sarah Spalding, who d. March 8, 1784; md. (2d) Mercy ——, who d. Dec. 11, 1789; md. (3d) 1790, Hannah Bounton. He d. Oct. 12, 1806.

Abel Wright, son of Henry and Sarah (Spalding) Wright, b. in Westford April, 1770, came to Ashby in childhood; md. 1792, Sybel Howard, who d. Sept. 12, 1803; md. (2d) Aug., 1804, Zilpah Rice, dau. of Jonas Rice, *q. v.* He was a farmer in Ashby where he d. March 15, 1852; his widow d. Oct. 22, 1862. Among the children of Abel and Zilpah (Rice) Wright were Laban W. Wright of this town and Eliza, wife of Asahel Wheeler.

1 LABAN W. WRIGHT, son of Abel and Zilpah (Rice) Wright, was b. in Ashby Aug. 30, 1827. He md. March 15, 1854, Susan Adaline Sawin, dau. of Abram Sawin, *q. v.* He resided in Ashby until 1868, when he removed to the farm now of Alden B. Marble. In 1876 he removed to the William Ward farm. He is a successful farmer.

2 I. *Alfred Warren*, b. May 14, 1859; d. April 19, 1861.

3 II. *Hattie Adella*, b. April 1, 1862; md. Sept. 15, 1881, Herbert D. Wellington, b. in Rindge Sept. 18, 1856, son of Joel and Harriet Elizabeth (Ramsdell) Wellington. They reside at East Rindge.

4 III. *John Allison*, b. Jan. 28, 1866.

5 IV. *Charles Franklin*, b. Jan. 11, 1869.

6 V. *Mabel Josephine*, b. Sept. 26, 1872.

INDEX OF NAMES.

THE names in the Genealogical Registers and lists of names on pages, 333–340, 457, 545–555, do not appear in this index. All titles are omitted and persons of the same name are included in one list of references.

ABBOTT, Jeremiah, 364 367
John, 231 364 365 367 425
Abercrombie, Dr. Otis, 469 530
Adams, Andrew J., 423
Rev. Daniel E., 280 281
Ebenezer, 428 430 432
Ebenezer Thomas, 434
Henry, 228 371 475
Ivers, 222 228 238 423 534
James, 328 423 428 430
Joseph, 421
John, 34 126 142 151 153 154 165 230–3 293 300 326 333 341 347 369 391 434 481
Levi, 421
Luther B., 413 423
Melvin O., 228 241 347 507 508
Nathaniel, 137
Samuel, 34
Stephen, 431
Thomas, 423
Walter R., 241 242 328 387 392 397 428 430 432 534 535
Allard, Charles W., 454
Ames, Augusta, 329
Stephen, 92 102 114 126 252
William, 128
Andrews, Albert H., 222 228 348 475
John, 53 63
Thomas, 53 458
Appleton, Nathaniel, 248
Samuel, 343 393
Archambeau, Peter, 446
Ashburnham, Earl of, 111
Atherton, Consider, 53
Ezra, 136 141
Humphrey, 53
James, 55
Joseph, 55

BAKER, Josiah, 54
William, 54
Balcom, Francis S., 455
Horace, 321
Baldwin, John, 405
John M., 458
Ballard, Benjamin, 67
Bancroft, Harvey M., 307 328 329 409
Jonathan O., 394
Barber, Hezekiah, 54 55 56 59 66 70 81
Barkhardst, Jacob, 94
Barnes, Asa, 318
Barrell, Luther, 313
William, 370
Barrett, Benjamin, 235 266 328 430
Charles, 221 235 237 280 299 307 328 371 407 432 433 538
Francis J., 329 398 432 433 452
George H., 222 329 359 386 387 407 486 437 455 456 534 535
James, 392
Lizzie F., 329
Mary S., 349 534
Oliver, 430

Barrett, Samuel, 394 420 537
Bates, John, 91 102 114 115 118 229 243 251 287
Beals, Charles L., 406 416
George L., 406 415 416 532
Beede, F. T., 347
Belcher, J., 30 31 43 46 48
Bellows, Benjamin, 37 38 50 90 153 194 196
Bemis, Albert T., 573
Charles A., 517
Frank W., 460
Justin W., 385
Benjamin, Jonas, 169
Jonathan, 158 159
William, 115 126 142 161 230 326
Bennett, James, 364 367
John, 30 41
Moses, 126
Thomas, 235 348 406
Bent, Joseph, 63
Roderick, 223
Bernard, Francis, 109 120
Berry, Thomas, 46
Bigelow, Benjamin, 127
John, 126 257
Luther, 430
Nathan, 126 257 297
Billings, James, 430
Joshua, 34 126 369
Bird, Benjamin, 55 57 58 59 61 65
Thomas, 55
Biron, Frederick, 454
Bishop, James, 63
Bixby, Aaron B., 462
Black, Sumner, 453
Blackburn, George, 420
Blair, Henry W., 183
Blake, George H., 318
Samuel, 55
William, 53 55
Blodget, Abraham, 126
Elias, 430 545
Isaac, 126 142 144
Blodgett, James, 403 409 414
Mary, 400
Blood, Hiram A., 387
Bond, Daniel, 163 190
Bourne, Marshall H., 455
Boutelle, Thomas, 222 276 277
Bowdoin, James, 215
Bowles, John, 45
Bowman, John, 182 210
Boynton, Hilkiah, 37 50
Bradlee, Samuel J., 228
Breed, Nathaniel, 166
Bride, Josiah W., 439
Bridge, Jeremiah, 93 126
Brigham, Charles W., 461
Francis E., 461
Joseph L., 461
Broadhead, John, 312
Brocklebank, Asa, 137 182
Brooks, Amos, 364 367
Dickerson, 428 430
Elijah, 307 336 407 430
Harvey, 237 283 307
Harvey P., 459
Ira, 403
Irving, 460
Judith, 266
Joel, 307 407
Mary, 545
Newton, 463
Pascal, 453
Peter, 126 464 521
Simeon, 403
Thaddeus, 395
William, 395 418
Brown, Catherine, 545
Daniel, 364 367
Joseph B., 446
Octavius W., 442
Josiah, 318
Unity, 91 243 251 252 287
William H., 223
Bullock, Alexander H., 354 356 358 359
Samuel J., 347
Burch, Samuel, 56 59
Burgess, Ebenezer, 141
Joseph F., 427 430 523
Joshua, 313 406 409 414
Josiah, 364
Burke, James, 458
Burnham, Edwin L., 223
Burr, Pyam, 238 407
Burrage, Charles W., 228 348 416 532
George S., 239 415 416
William F., 228 240 416 532
Bush, C. Webster, 223
Butler, Adam, 430
Leroy A., 405 419
Nathaniel R., 342
William, 461
Butt, Richard, 54
Samuel, 54
Buttrick, Aaron G., 445
Charles, 403
Buzzell, Reuben A., 463

CAIN, John, 545
Caldwell, John, 302 306 422 524
Oliver G., 417 422
Call, Isaac, 460

Capron, William D., 455
Carlisle, David, 200
Carter, Nathaniel, 70 155
Case, John W., 315 348
Cassidy, John, 459
Castle, Alfred, 453
Causey, L. P., 315
Chaffin, David, 155 159 163 166 189 197 198
Chamberlain, Charles T., 460
John, 159 161
Chandler, Jonathan, 53 59
Samuel, 53
Chaplin, David, 137
Joseph, 55 59
Levi, 137
Moses, 55
Timothy, 137
Charhore, John, 55
Chase, Richard C., 460
Cheney, Benjamin, 53 59
Harrison C., 439 445
Harvey A., 441
Mary, 258
Tristram, 92 114–29 126 139 229 252 254 283 291 524
William, 53
Choate, John, 45
Church, Benjamin, 88 246 248
Charles, 45
Clapp, Edward, 54
Nehemiah, 54
Clark, Benjamin, 158 159 170
Daniel, 520 521
David, 102 126 142–4 154–69 172 189 210
Harvey, 452
Jonas M., 315
Joseph E., 573
Luther, 452
Thomas H., 387
Walter C., 460
Wilder P., 223
Coderre, Louis, 460
Coffin, George, 267
Cole, Samuel, 317
Coleman, James, 89 90 102 114 118 229 243 251 287 375 390
Job, 126 252
Conant, Ebenezer, 93 102 125 126 135 142 147 162 231 257 297 403 425
Lyman, 409
Ruth, 520
Conn, John, 119 126 136 142 151 158 161 163 230 232 238 283 409
John A., 239 329 348
Constantine, Jacob, 95 142 153 154 162 233 257 297
Constantine, Widow, 95
Converse, James, 39 50
Josiah, 40 50
Robert, 39 50
Conway, John, 323
Cook, John L., 63 532
Robert, 55
William, 55 315
Coolidge, Elisha, 84 88 90 102 106 109 115 117 126 134 146 229 251 257 286 289 291 297 390 404
F. S., 413
Henry, 81 106
John, 169
Jonathan, 152
Cooper, William, 54 106
Corey, Asahel, 221 222 235 305 395 398 430 432 523
George F., 421 535
Hezekiah, 168 231–5 300 313 379
Jonas, 398 405 432
Levi, 395 545
Stephen, 221 228 234 236 421
Coughlin, Bartholomew, 453
Crane, Ebenezer, 53
Crehore, Horace C., 396
Timothy, 333 336 347 428 430–3
Crocker, Alvah, 354 359
Crosby, Elvira W., 356
Fitch, 299 419
Henry, 496
Josiah D., 222 229 318 348 354–9 499 563
Cummings, Ariel I., 514 515
Calvin, 511
John L., 228 240–2 535 573
Cunningham, Ephraim M., 475
Curtice, Joseph, 56
Cushing, Amelia J., 432
Benjamin, 82
David, 232 233 302 379 391 421 533 539
David M., 455
Doddridge, 267 299 302 395 533 543
Edward J., 223
Edwin J., 455
George R., 227 234–6 300 303 307 333 348 370 484
Henry E., 408 409
Jacob, 255
Job, 263
John, 28 67 99 101 123 124 125 127 136 151 165 254 266 288 303 348 355 362 372 429 533 542 556 559

Cushing, Laban, 430
Stephen, 222 311 313 513
Thomas Parkman, 351 354 358 489–92
Cutler, Asher, 72 73 90
William H., 307 398 469
Cutter, Nathaniel F., 330 430–2
Cutting, Samuel, 137 142 168 233 434

DAMON, Joseph, 364 367
Dana, Caleb, 81 84 105 106 109 110 246 287
Ezra, 347 403
Francis, 106
George, 105 134 136 137 141 151 231
Richard, 81 88 106 109 110 287 404
Richard H., 106
Davenport, William G., 461
Davis, Alonzo P., 432 435 436 437 445
Charles, 236 409 434
Charles E., 505
Deliverance, 93 114 117 126 135 136 139 140 142 165 167 230 252 390
Ebenezer B., 148 154 190 193 194
Elnathan, 273 274 348 568 573
Frank A., 452 462
George E., 240 241 439 445 448 461
George P., 359
John C., 140 237 321 405 409 484
John, 399 403
Joseph, 405
Lucy, 308
Oliver, 130 505
Day, John B., 399 432
Dennis, Nathan, 84 91 102
Derby, Samuel, 118
Dickerson, Amos, 126 135 141 163 165 230 281 326
David, 126
Francis, 291
George, 93 117
Sarah 252
Dodge, Josiah, 520
Theodore A., 459
Donnovan, Timothy, 447
Doolan, Patrick, 459
William, 460 461
Dow, Lorenzo, 312
Duane, Bernard, 415
Dudley, William, 46
Duncan, George N., 454
Dunham, Howard C., 315
Jerusha, 545
Dunster, Samuel, 235 406 419 420
Dutton, Salmon, 126 136
Thomas, 126 144
Dwight, Jonathan, 59 65 68 70 71 72 81 84
Dwinnell, Jonas W., 446 532
Waldo, 447 449

EASTMAN, Cyrus, 315
Eaton, Danforth L., 503 504
Francis, 400
John, 409
Josiah, 409
Nathan, 330 349 534
Nathaniel L., 239 240 313 418
Eddy, Eliphalet, 405
George W., 223 228 283 534 535
Edgell, John D., 223
Edson, Daniel, 142 144
Elijah, 126 130 142
Edwards, Thomas, 538
Elliot, Robert J., 442
Ellis, Daniels, 228 239 242 398 405 418
Jesse, 410 434
William P., 228 239 240 283 308 348 386 387 417 419 571 572
Emory, Enos, 404
Esty, Jonathan L., 315
Evans, Ermina L., 531
Matthias, 53 63
Richard, 53
Thomas, 53

FAIRBANKS Cyrus, 149 180 207 210 533
Emory, 237
Europe H., 240, 406, 570
Francis J., 506
Ithamar, 434
Jacob, 296 434
J. H., 356
Jonathan, 56
Joseph W., 506 507
Seth P., 73 381
Fargo, James, 460
Farley, Timothy, 119
Farmer, John, 144
Farrar, David, 39, 50
Farwell, George G., 453
Merrill, 446
Fay, Benjamin F., 441
John B., 223
John W., 348 532
Fellows, Samuel, 88 92 102 109 114

Fellows, Samuel, 117 126 130 229 252 254 283 291 557
Fenno, James W., 316
Fessenden, Josiah, 154
Finan, John, 442
Finney, John L., 454
Fish, Charles I., 454
Fisher, George E., 222 277 278
Timothy, 101, 168
Fiske, Ebenezer, 36
Frederick A., 274 275
Martin H., 347
Nathaniel B., 314 316
Fitch, John, 76 116 373
Fitzgibbon, Michael, 439 452 462
Fitzgerald, John, 458
Patrick, 463
Fletcher Brothers, 419
Ebenezer, 34
Joshua, 149 182 208 209
Flint, Ebenezer, 307 430
Edward S., 222 242 348 400 414
Eleazer, 341
Levi E., 95
Foster, Andrew, 154
George C., 228 241 535 572 573
Jeremiah, 91 117 126 252 286 372
Jerome W., 228 237-40 308 348 354 355 359 485 531 570
Job, 460 461
Joel, 234
Leonard, 239 406 418
Moses, 82 88 90 91 101 102 119 126 243 247 251 254 286 287 291 390 402
Nathaniel, 406 434
Samuel, 115 117 126 137 151 231 232 293 295 328 404 432
Waldo A., 454
Foot, Horatio, 270
Franklin, Susan, 521
Fregean, John, 460
Frobisher, Benjamin, 99
Frost, Ebenezer, 236 237 303 304 344 348 407 523
John M., 432
Spencer, 455
Frye, James, 392
Fuller, Nathan, 201
Fullford, Alva S., 439

GALE, Chester B., 454
Galliver, John, 55
Gallop, Antil, 34
Samuel, 44, 45
Gamble, Thomas, 68, 90
Gardner, James W., 437
Garfield, Elisha, 430
Garlick, Alfred E., 400
Garnet, James M., 439 446 448 462
Gates, Henry, 126 141
Hezekiah, 40 62 65 68 69 70 84 402
John, 142 144 154 163 184 232 380 427 430 432 589
Jonathan, 102 106 114 117 126, *passim*, 165 184 193 194 197 229 230 287 425
Paul, 116
Samuel, 233, 234 432
William, 201
George, Joshua, 55
Nathan, 316
William, 55
Gibbs, Benjamin, 407 434
Daniel, 403
Joseph, 206 341 369
Gibson, Abraham, 148
Stephen, 321, 322
Stillman, 404
Thomas, 180 199 203 207 210 269
Gilbert, Lorenzo H., 445 448 461
Gill, Moses, 559
Gilson, Frank B., 397
Gipson, Henry, 430
Glazier, John C., 222 236 237 283 306 348 409 415
Lewis, 455
Thomas E., 409
Goddard, Edward, 46
Godding, Philip, 52 56
Gold, Bartholame, 55
Goodale, Peter, 364
Goodyear, George, 270 271 272 348 538
Gookin, Daniel, 69
Greenwood, Georgie S., 329
John, 42
Moses P., 397 407 534
Theodore, 240 241 407 460
Green, Asa, 497
Hosea, 237 306 307 344 348
Oliver, 302, 494
Thomas, 31
Timothy, 59 65 69 84
Grimes, Martin V. B., 441 454 461
Gross, Elijah, 403 417 573
Peeks, 403
Sarah W., 573

HADLEY, Gamaliel, 91
George G., 446 460 462
John, 407
Merrick, 398 461

Hall, Henry, 94 95 96 119 126 141 143 366 407
John, 142 148 160 187 336 364 367
Hames, Joseph, 454
Hammond, Frederick, 460
Thomas, 461
Hanwart, Joseph, 460
Hare, James P., 446
John, 453
Patrick J., 461
Harper, Daniel, 119
Harrington, Timothy, 248
Harris, Benjamin, 70
Heman, 431
Humphrey, 430 512
Jacob, 126 135 164–8 222 230–4 283 291 348
Joseph, 573
Nathaniel, 142 163
Samuel, 509 510
Hart, Ebenezer, 460
Hartwell, E. A., 347
Edward, 57 59 61–8 72 78 81 375
Thomas, 199
Harty, John B., 454
Harwood, Kilburn, 222 228 236 237 305 432 433
Hastings, Charles, 49 79 88 96 205 210 303 330 336 356 393 395 427 432 527 530
Ezra, 545
J. Newton, 283
John, 428 431 528
Nathaniel, 142
Stephen C., 452
Hayden, Newton, 240 241 397
Hayward, Edwin, 405
Samuel, 65
Hazen, Richard, 70
Heald, Charles H., 441 446
Hemenway, Ebenezer, 93 126 230 252
Joshua, 142 144
Henshaw, Phineas, 168
Joshua, 89 106 109 110 536
Herbert, Joseph, 63 64
Herrick, Austin F., 315
Austin H., 316
Noyes B., 462
Hewins, Benjamin, 54
Joseph, 54
Hewitt, George, 119
Heywood, Nathan, 32 33 50 56 81 88 98 246 248
Zimri, 89 91 102 118 119 402
Hill, Ann, 521
Isaac, 488 489
Hill, John, 311
Maverick, 363
Hills, William, 317
Hinshua, Daniel, 54
Samuel, 54
Hix, Samuel, 55 78
Hobart, Daniel, 141 149
Harrison C., 501 502 503
Shebuel, 142
Thomas, 233–5 266 307 370 434 524
Hobson, John, 45
Hodge, J. F. and E. L., 406, 416
Hodgman, Lucius R., 439
Hoffman, Max, 454
Holbrook, Horatio J., 307
Holden, Jonas, 427 430
Joseph, 126
Joshua, 142 154 214 297
Holt, Joshua, 142 143
Liberty, 403
Samuel D., 453
Uriah, 142 144 148
Horrigan, Michael, 460
Hosley, Hosea, 399
Houghton, Jonas, 47 50
Levi, 118
Lewis G., 432
Oliver, 231
Houston, Grant, 302
Horace W., 92 405
Howard, Emery A., 316
Lewis, 432
Samuel, 317 348 385
Thomas, 430
Thomas M., 455
Howe, Isaac, 56 57
Leroy A., 453
Orange E., 455
Perley, 239 240
Hubbard, Eli, 356 359
Hudson, Melzar, 435
Hunt, Peter T., 504
Samuel, 247
Sherebiah, 267 283

JACKSON, Elisha, 153
Isaac, 327
Joseph, 248
Jagodynsky, August, 545
Jaquith, Andrew, 513 514
Jefts, Cyrus A., 348 407
Jennison, Edwin, 272 273
Jewett, Amory, 473
Ivers, 100 221 226 234 235 299 300 348 393 394 427–33 479 533
Joseph, 100 178 200 210 221 228 232–5 266 299 300 302

Jewett, Joseph, 307 326 347 369–94 425 427 432 433 478 523 530 533 539
Merrick A., 498
Nathaniel, 474
Sarah, 268
Jillson, Harvey D., 240 348 472
Johnson, Moses, 126
Timothy, 154 156 194 520
Jones, Charles B., 455
Daniel, 39 73 283 321
David, 54 59
Enos, 73 91 117 126 142 151 168 230 231 232 347 409
Gilman, 237 321 348 417 432
John, 54 118 229
William, 39
Joslin, Abijah, 126 135 147 151 230
James, 126
John, 32
Peter, 126 141 143 149 291
Samuel, 141 291
Joyner, Hannah, 252
William, 92 114 115 117 229 289

KEEP, Jabez, 200
Kelley, James, 460
Peter, 55
Kelton, Edward, 54
Samuel, 128 178 363
Thomas, 54
Kemp, Benjamin, 126
Kendall, Alvin, 415 432
Amos, 136 137 138 141 230
Caleb, 293 427 432
Charles W., 441 461
Francis, 192
Nathaniel, 163 197
Keyes, Gershom, 40
Kibling, Catherine, 327
Francis, 404 418
Frank G., 447
George W., 398
Jacob, 141 148 231 232 297 327
John, 94 96 97 114 126 136 147 148 151 153 162 229 230 251 297 313 404 524
Joseph W., 329 398
Henry, 432 434 435
Hobart F., 391 392
Kilburn, Daniel, 315
King, Rodney, 458
Kinsman, Alfred D., 395
Kneeland, Samuel, 54 70
Knight, Israel W., 392 531
James M., 392
Knowlton, Charles, 474

LANE, Benjamin, 169
Elias, 85, 235 237 299 404 434 523
Francis, 141 143 151 164 165 167 175 195 230 231 232 293 297 347 379 404 425 434 558
Francis W., 508
Fred. D., 349 508
Henry T., 460
Hosea F., 348
Josiah, 407
Martin B., 241 397 573
Milton, 404 418
Sewell S., 400
Willard, 421 432
Lansing, John A., 316
Larby, Mitchell, 454
Lawrence, Amos, 141 167 175
Charles G., 446 448 461
Ezra, 405
George, 328
George W., 446 448 461
Henry, 238 403 417
John C., 454
Lawrence, Moses, 405 432 524
William J., 234 266 283 421 422 434 524 533
Laws, David, 283
James, 427 430
Walter H., 495 535
Leads, Joseph, 53 59
Learned, Frank S., 454
James, 394
Leathers, Charles F., 453
John, 434
Lechuga, Etiene, 460
Ledget, James, 169
Lee, Francis, 154
Joseph, 34
Lepond, Charles, 458
Lesure, Samuel C., 439 445 448 461
Lewis, Joseph, 316
William T., 319
Washburn, 446
Libbey, Leander W., 439
Litch, Charles T., 242, 535
Frank J., 446
George H., 461
Joel H., 222 238 239 240
Theresa, 329
Little, Elbridge G., 275 276
Lincoln, Heman, 353 395
I. Sumner, 270
James F., 455
Lindley, William H., 439
Locke, Jacob, 154 157 172
James, 96 116
John, 144
Philip, 141 143 403

Lombard, George W., 414
Long, James H., 400
Longley, Artemas, 244
Loring, Charles G., 353 354
Loud, Charles A., 222
Lovell, Asa, 398
Lowe, Abraham, 149 153 178 199 226 227 232 267 299 300 338 347 348 365 370 379 380 434 465 533
Abraham T., 221 302 348 354 356 359 435 466 534 563
Charlotte, 210
George H., 329 394
Lumerzette, Frank, 449
Lyon, Eliab, 55
Henry, 53
Nathaniel, 55
Thomas, 53 61 63
Waitstill, 55 59
Zachariah, 55

MAHAN, Thomas, 461
Mansfield, Benjamin, 55
Horace O., 455
John H., 316
Marble, Alden B , 422
Henry A., 455
Jabez, 149 181 208 210 431
Joel, 430
Joel P., 397
Luke, 240 407
Newell, 342
Oliver, 149 181 203 235 299
Stephen, 371 430
Walter H., 509
Warren E., 95 341 407
Marcy, Ichabod, 316
Marsh, Charles, 269
Martin, John, 93 252 257
Martindale, H. H., 446 448 463
Marvin, A. P., 354 356 359
Mason, Elijah, 166 198
Joseph, 45
Orlando, 222 359
Samuel, 142 154 157 172
Matthews, Hezekiah, 399 410 461
Lewis G., 399
Mattoon, John O., 471
May, Augustine, 455
Charles S., 415
Sumner, 410 415
Maynard, Antipas, 223 238 330 529 570
Edward, 431
McCoolif, Patrick, 442
McIntire, James, 447
Parley, 452
Robert W., 385 405
McIntosh, Augustus, 441 461
Erastus, 446 448 462
McMahon, Archibald, 479
Mead, Jason, 403
Mears, James, 59
Melvin, Nathan, 102 115 117 126 142 229, 390
Menott, George, 54
Merriam, Asa, 432 434
Benjamin, 397
David, 148 153 154 168 192 193
Edward B., 445
Francis H., 455
Henry, 463
Isaac, 142 163 166 167 191 198 230
Jonathan, 168 434
Joseph, 182 209 210
Philip R., 307 396 410
William, 333
Merrill, Daniel, 119 126 252
John W., 315
Merritt, Ezra M., 447
Simeon, 219 223 239 240–2 385 387 571
Metcalf, Emily, 516
Eunice, 187
Ezekiel S., 147 154 159 187
George J., 532
George O., 463
Joel F., 240
John, 45
Joseph, 126 141 147 151 230
Otis, 392 454
Samuel, 152 155 166 188 198
Miller, Alfred, 228 229 348 437 470
Ernest P., 508
Henry J., 223
Joseph, 427 430
Stephen A., 329 570
Modsley, Thomas, 54
Yonnite, 54
Moffat, John, 81 120 246 248 287
Monk, Elias, 53
Moore, Asher, 348
Elliot, 238 239 248 397 398
Ephraim W., 463
Morey, James, 53
Morse, Ebenezer, 255
Jonas, 436 437
Morton, Francis H., 452 462
Orin, 392 452
Mossman, John W., 432
Matthias, 233
Timothy, 55 56 71–3 78–90 285
Moulton, Horace, 315
Mulloy, Michael, 461
Munroe, Charles, 409 415 428 430

Munroe, Ebenezer, 177 178 232 233 234 293 380
Francis A., 455
George M., 462 534
Jonas, 399 434
Murdock, Isaac M., 354 359
William, 222
Murphy, Dennis, 454
Mitchell, 461

NEVINS, David, 387
Newell, Henry C., 242
Samuel, 44 45
Newton, Samuel, J., 228
Sereno, 460
Nichols, Samuel, 92 109 110 115 117 126 134–6
Nickerson, Cyrus W., 454
Nims, Silas, 437
Noble, Charles, 315
Norcross, Amasa, 344 354 356 359
Noyes, Samuel N., 419
Nutting, Allen A., 441
George P., 441
Jonas, 302 434
Simeon, 126 137

OAKS, Joseph, 454
Oberlock, John, 94 126 251 291
Philip, 403
O'Brien, Alexander, 460
Patrick, 461
Olds, William, 315
Oliver, Sylvester F., 447 449
O'Neill, Dennis, 460
Osborn, Luther, 399
Osgood, Jacob, 394
James, 415
Peter, 142

PACKARD Brothers, 86 404
Page, George E., 447
Paine, Thomas, 119
Park, Thomas, 414
Parker, Alden W., 462
Charles H., 445
Frank H., 397
George G., 222 228 237 238 306 307 336 348 475 568
Jesse, 239 240 241 385
Leonard S., 279 280 349 359
Nathaniel, 141
Walter O., 223 397 439 453 535 573
Parkman, Ebenezer, 255 266
Sarah, 266
Payson, John, 255
Peabody, Charles, 319
Peckham, Samuel, 318
Peirce, Amos, 233 236
Nathaniel, 221, 228 236 241 303 304 307 348 419 468 523
Pelkey, Frederick, 461
Pentecost, William, 316
Perkins, Elisha, 269
Francis H., 454
George, 266–70 298 299 348 543
Henry C., 449
J. Douglas, 269
Perry, Joseph, 119, 126 129 130 142
Peter, 94 96
Petts, Ferdinand, 392
John, 228 474 568
Pfaffle, William, 461
Phelps, Edward, 70
Phillips, Asia, 431
Ivers, 406
Sally, 329
Phipps, William, 106
Pierce, B. K., 359
Charles L., 473
Edwin, 357
Pindar, Calvin, 447 448
Piper, Alfred, 446
Hobart W., 455 460 462
Jonathan H., 414 529
Plaisted, Thomas, 79
Platts, Irving E., 403 413 415
John V., 382
Poland, David E., 532
Pollard, Edwin A., 459
James, 364 367
William, 231, 232 347
Polley, Joseph, 430 431
Pope, Ebenezer, 54
John, 53
Ralph, 54
William, 199
Potter, Geo. F., 459
Pratt, Aaron, 462
Charles H., 242 439
John M., 242 382 418 529
Otis, 462
Thomas, 154
William, 447
Prentice, John, 263
Prescott, Ebenezer, 36 50
Priest, Daniel, 126 291
Proctor, Clarence D., 462
Clarence M., 431 432 532
Simeon, 34
Puffer, Charles H , 446 448 462
Eugene A., 439 462
George F., 446 448 462
James, 313
Reuben, 313 403 419 529
Putnam, Daniel, 148 163 214 425

Putnam, John, 137 142 423
Nathan, 257
Salmon W., 423

QUINCY, J., 46

RAND, Ananias, 148 196
Asa, 354 358
Randall, Ezra, 239
Jonas, 403
Phinehas, 432 497
Stephen, 167 259 347 509
Raymond, Ari, 514
Oliver A., 399
William, 500
Rebel, John, 461
Redman, Robert, 54 65
Charles, 54
Reed, William, 36
Rice, Aaron, 461
Asaph, 255
Charles H., 517
Charles J., 223
Eliakim, 181 199 201 202
Emery, 432
Harvey J., 455
Homer T., 329
Jonas, 149 180 181 201 206 328, 545
Joseph, 222 299 409 430 432
Joseph P., 238 329 432 436 437 438 449 450 476
Levi, 307
Reuben, 149 166 181 198 199 201 204 206 369 395 430 432
Salmon, 395
Samuel, 118
Sawyer, 330
Susan C.. 432
Walter, 505
Zebulon, 201
Zilpah, 210
Rich, John, 94 96 97 114 126 130 229 251
Richardson, Jonas, 363
William H., 462
Rideout, Frank H., 419
Robinson, David, 141 143
James, 53
John, 53
Rockwood, Charles F., 240 242 349
George, 228 239 398 417 568
George G., 387 421 423 461 572
S. Augustus, 452
Rodamel, Simon, 94 96 97 119 126 159 166 198
Rodiman, Adam, 154 161
Jacob, 148 151 166 198
Peter, 170 171
Rolfe, Benjamin, 40 41
Rollins, Edward B., 317
Ross, Moses, 409
Thomas, 148 154 194
Royall, William, 45 47 56
Ruggles, Otis T., 387
Russell, David, 390
Eliakim T., 418
Franklin, 240 241 387 422
Fred. W., 347
Levi W., 348 515 516
Moses, 141
M. Thomas, 445
Samuel, 34
Thomas, 422
Walter, 237 238 299 422
Ward, 422
Ryan, Daniel F., 439
Thomas H., 454

SABIN, Lewis, 330
Sackett, Francis, 442 459 461 545
Salter, Samuel, 119 126 141 143
Samson, Aaron, 126 141 143
David, 163 197
Henry K., 452
J. Horace, 329
Jonathan, 88 92 102 109 114 126 134 135 137 147 148 151–4 160 164 166 167 186 193 197 206 210 287 428 430
Oliver, 300 313
Sanders, Hopestill, 56
John, 56
Samuel, 56
Sanderson, Simeon, 510 511
Sawtell, Frank B., 460
Warren F., 419
Sawyer, Edward, 307 573
Mannassah, 148 193
Mary A., 347
Paul, 154
Schoffe, Jacob, 94 95 97 114 116 126 251
Scollay, George W., 514
Grover, 299 432
John, 432
Samuel, 495
Selham, Henry, 115 118 119
Jacob, 94 96
Senter, Dr. ——, 134 465
Shaffer, John, 458
Shattuck, Job, 214
John, 364 367
Rinaldo, 455
Shaw, Robert N., 447
Sheldon, Josiah, 69
Sheperd, John, 56
Sherbert, Charles, 454

Shipman, Thomas L., 269
Sibley, Edward, 454
Sinclair, Albert G., 222
Skelton, Emma, 280
Skinner, H. B., 315
Small, Joseph H., 405
Smeddy, Morris, 460
Smith, Abraham, 92 252
Andrew J., 313
Charles E., 452
John W., 141
Joseph, 144
Joshua, 227 231 295 347 380 524
William H., 460
Sohier, William D., 353
Sparhawk, Thomas, 34
Spaulding, Benjamin, 91 118 124 126
James, 102 366
John A., 452
Miles, 474
Nathan, 312
Newell, 315
William S., 500 501
Stack, Henry, 94 96
Starkey, Charles L., 460
Starr, Benjamin, 30 31
Thomas, 29 31 40
Stearns, Alice, 545
Asa, 494
Charles, 228 236–8 305 328 329 348 434 531 568
Clement C., 329
David, 248
George H., 462
Isaac, 34 106 149 165 179 215 557 563
Jesse, 341 348 565
Jesse G. D., 499 500
John, 106 497 498
Josiah M., 503
Leonard, 395
Thomas, 59 118 134
Timothy, 235 434
William, 149 179 232 347
Stedman, David, 149 160 231
Ebenezer, 34
Stevens, George F., 241 242 359 534 535
Moody A., 278 279
Samuel S., 307 394 410 415
Stewart, Luther E., 449
Stickney, Alonzo L., 473
Stimson, Charles, 420 430
Charles L., 462
Elbridge, 239 240 394 417 422 423 534 573
Lemuel, 181 201 210 233 311 313 333 395
Stimson, Mirick, 398 407
Reuben, 431
Stoddard, John H., 439
Stone, Amos, 430
Charles, 463
Ephraim, 126 229 230 289 557
George A., 461
Hosea, 221 228 235 236 271 394 432 433
John, 36
John C., 392
Joseph, 141 163 185 379 380
Oliver, 126 135 136 152 230
Peter, 283
William, 315
William P., 348 469
Stowe, Mortimer M., 283 534
Stowell, Jeremiah, 420
Joshua, 420
Joshua T., 452
Moses, 420
Ransom G., 447 455 462
Stratton, Herbert S., 223
Sumner, Benjamin, 55 57
Ebenezer, 55
Edward, 55
Increase, 55
Joseph, 255
Josianiah, 53
Samuel, 54 55 57 61
Seth, 53 88 105
William, 53 55
Swift, James, 54
John, 53 116 248
Obadiah, 54
William, 53 106

TAYLOR, Amos, 283 329
David, 102 118 148
Ephraim, 430
Jonathan, 126 134 135 137 142 147 151 230 297
Nathan, 341
Oliver, 341
Samuel A., 437 445 460 461
Thaddeus, 558
Temple, Theron, 348, 472
Tenney, Hartwell, 461
Josephine, 329
Mabel W., 330
Samuel J., 403 417
Timothy, 461
William, 403, 417
Thayer, F. C. L. W., 448
Thomas, Henry E., 441
Josiah, 460
Thompson, Charles O., 356 359
John B., 240
Michael, 452

Thurston, Lyman F., 448
Tileston, Cornelius, 54
Elisha, 77 81
Thomas, 44 45 47 55–9 66 70 77 105 106
Timothy, 54 57 77 81
Tilton, Abraham, 44 45
Tolman, John, 53
Torrey, Ebenezer, 354 355 359
Tottingham, Moses, 164 341
Townsend, Abraham, 181
Isaac, 35
Joseph, 430
Joshua, 299 348 416 419
Margaret, 187 194 210
Reuben, 179 200 201 219 222 228 235–7 242 266 307 328 430 570
Trask, John, 521
Trescott, Elizabeth, 55
Joseph, 53 59
Samuel, 55
Tuckerman, Albert H., 460
Henry, 343 348
Turner, Amasa, 119
John, 269
Tyler, Henry M., 359

UPHAM, Sumner H., 400

VALENTINE, John E., 448
Vanness, Henry, 494
Vincent, Hebron, 315
Vorback, Philip, 94 126 251
Vose, James E., 349 358

WADE, Nathaniel, 56
Wales, Eleazer, 56
Waliant, John E., 461
Walker, Addison A., 239 240 308 329 387 417 436 437 441 444 451 534 535
James, 461
James L., 452
John K., 442
Rebecca, 229 330
Wallace, Frank W., 407
Hosea C., 448
John W., 545
Lincoln, 452
Merrick, 42 470
Webster W., 463
William, 455
Wallis, David, 149 180 206 207
Ebenezer, 180 204 206
Ward, Alvan, 405 409 418
Caleb, 126 142 194 232 233 348 533
Carlos P., 452
Ward, George P., 463
Harlem E., 460 462
Isaac D.. 239 320 342 405 419
Jacob, 428 431
John, 369 370
Marcus L., 453
Martin N., 461
Rebecca, 266
Samuel, 283 306
William, 148 152–4 158 160 163 187 194 197 206 210
W. L. G., 405
Ware, Stephen N., 399 400
Warren, Joseph, 53
Washburn, Seth, 171
William B., 344
Watkins, Jehiel, 236, 434
Wayland, Francis, 353 354 358 359
Webster, Moses, 315
Weeks, Ammiel, 54
George, 54
Joseph, 53 54 63
Wellington, Amos, 118
Wenneg, Jacob, 126
West, Julia Houston, 329
Wetherbee, Amos, 347
Benjamin E., 241 242 399 415
Ephraim, 35 39 50 142
George M., 447
Joseph, 321
Josiah L., 434
Marshall, 228 239–41 349 398 437 534 571
Oliver, 119 126
Phineas, 126 136
Wheeler, Asahel, 432 437 439 445 460 461
Ephraim, 39 72 90
Samuel, 56
Thomas, 91 115 243 251 287 390
Wheelock, Joseph, 30 41 56 61 62 68 70 72 81 106
Timothy, 56
Wheildon, W. G., 413
Whipple, Charles H., 460
Frederick R., 455
James E., 447–9 462
Russell, 455
Whitcomb, Asa, 142
Benjamin, 126
Oliver, 126 142
William, 92 114 127 137 142 147 150 163 168 171 218 220 229 230 252 557
White, Abner, 415
Charles H., 439 447 448 462 544
Elisha, 221 228 232–4 283 299

White, Elisha, 336 347 370 533
Ivers, 397 531
John, 154 160 167 364
Josiah, 430
Josiah E., 329
Lorenzo, 315
Nelson D., 222
William, 59
William P., 315
William S., 461
Windsor N., 222
Whiteman, Christian W., 94–7 115 119 126 251
Henry, 434
Jacob, 407
John, 252 347
Newton B., 461
Nicholas, 149 153 154 160 197 207
Whitmore, Alfred, 228
Alfred A., 318 320
Edward, 163 166 179 197 198
Enoch, 222 235 237 238 319 336 348 417 419 430 432 433 485 565 568
Frank B., 447
Isaac, 179 198 210 347 434
Joseph, 230 393
Lorenzo Locke, 348 471 573
Orange S., 461
Whitney, Austin, 222 228 240 241 386 387 398 423
Charles H., 385
Charles M., 463
Charles W., 242 385 454
Ephraim, 367
Francis A., 240 242 347 348 359 535
George O., 460
Giles H., 222
Isaac, 364
John, 143 413
Joseph H., 441 445 460 461
Josiah, 148 151 205
Judah, 367
Lemuel, 95 100 313 366 434 448
Levi, 167 326
Merrick, 391 392 447
Milton, 492 493
Moses, 393
Ohio, 222 228 237–41 308 317 348 334 358 359 386 387 397 420 486 523 534 570
Orange, 242 414 415
Samuel V., 392 398 422 432 531
Silas, 369 391 434 562
Stephen C., 455
Whitney, Walton B., 535
Wilbur F., 222 228 349 387 406 413 414 532 534
William, 512
Whittemore, Samuel, 34
Wight, Daniel, 318–21 349
Wiat, Edward, 55
Wilder, Abel, 510
Andrew, 59 60 63 66 72 375
Caleb, 70 81 88 98 100 104 125 233 234 246–8 286 290 333 348 403 432 434
Charles W., 511
David, 143 147
Gardner, 70
Joseph, 30 32 40 41 46 47 56 57 59 60 77 81 104 113 114 137 142
Josiah, 102 363
Oliver, 56 61 62 65 68 105 291
Oliver D., 452 460 462
Samuel, 88 104 114 124–6 134 136 151 158 164 167 220 226 229–32 283 289 293 295 347 365 369 377–9 477 539 545 557
Sarah, 545
Thomas, 53 105
William, 141 151 230
Willard, Alonzo L., 405 418
Amos F., 461
Caleb, 430
C. Edgar, 439
Elijah, 510
Francis S., 453
Frederick E., 385
George, 463
George A., 95
Henry, 432
Hezekiah, 126
Jacob, 127 136 142 213 214 218 220 221 226 227 230–3 257 297 365 369 480
James H., 448
John, 126 136 147 151 230 234 235 283 300 318 333 347 432 434 480 524 533
Jonas, 336 348
Josiah, 38 46 50
Moses, 37 50
Oliver, 126 142 147 158 161 163 195 230
Peter, 137
Philander J., 434
Samuel, 141 143
Silas, 219 228 233–5 300–4 313 432 481 523 524
Timothy, 390
Williams, David O., 460

Williams, Eleazer, 81
Willis, John, 56
Wilker, George, 370 430
Jacob, 94 137
Joseph W., 95
Wilkie, Walter, 316
Wilkins, John H., 228 241 242 572
Wilson, Charles, 458
George W., 447
Winchester, C. and G. C. 86 404 406 407 410
Charles, 239 314 359 395 396 410–13 573
George C., 222 308 : 54 359 386–8 396 398 410–13 442 531 534 570–2
Henry, 141 143 168
Jonathan, 102 120 121 127 142 163 243 246 248 251–4 355 369 521
Jonathan David, 495 496
Joseph, 248
William, 163
Winter, Andrew, 94 96 126 166 193 206 376 521
Jacob, 144 172
John, 154 193 194
Winter, Philip, 142 143 149
Withington, Edward, 101
John, 52 54 57 59
Richard, 54
Wood, Charles, 453
Ebenezer, 143 326
George, 432
Nahum, 391 421
Pliny, 315 316
Solomon, 558
Stephen, 382 385
Timothy, 126 142
Woodell, James M., 455
Woodcock, William L., 222
Woodman, Henry, 63 64
Woods, Asa, 234 299 336
John, 100
Leonard, 516
Samuel, 307 394 530 533 538
Woodward, Charles E., 242 283 347 348 531 535
John G., 31 239 240
Worcester, Abijah, 126
James L., 529
Wyman, Stephen, 344

YOUNG, William M., 455

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